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Bosnia-Hercegovina

Croat, Muslim, and Serb military representatives signed an unconditional cease-fire that went into effect on 12 November, AFP reports. TANJUG reported that at mid-morning the cease-fire was still being "largely observed."

Yugoslavia

Federal—Quoting "well-informed sources," BORBA reports that President Dobrica Cosic will run in the parliamentary and presidential elections in December "if Slobodan Milosevic runs for president of Serbia."

Kosovo—TANJUG reports that a scuffle between Yugoslav Army guards and three Albanian youths outside the Army's garrison in Pristina left one Albanian dead. While the guards said that they were "attacked" by "armed assailants," Zagreb radio countered that "eyewitnesses" reported that the guards "provoked three young men who were passing" the garrison.

Hungary

During Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Budapest, the Russian and Hungarian governments agreed to renounce any outstanding "material demands against each other," Budapest radio reports. The two sides also agreed that Hungary will provide Russia with humanitarian aid, while Russia would settle its $1.7 billion debt to Hungary, provide the Hungarian Army with spare parts, and return Hungarian "national works of art that ended up in Russia" during World War II.

Poland

Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka said that she reached an "amazing understanding" during her first meeting with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, PAP reports. Following talks in Bonn on Polish-German economic cooperation, Kohl told journalists that his country wants "a reformed Poland to find its place in the future European union" and that "the gate has been left wide open for Poland to enter."

President Berisha Interviewed on Slovenia Visit

LD1211000592 Tirana Radio Tirana in English 1530 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Report on interview with President Sali Berisha by unidentified announcer; Berisha speaks in Albanian with English translation; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] President of the Republic Sali Berisha came home from a two-day visit to Slovenia—the first for the Albanian president to this former Yugoslav Republic. In an exclusive interview to Radio Tirana he described the visit as successful and expressed the hope for rapid development of bilateral relations.

I think this was a very fruitful visit. I was pleased to go to Slovenia. I was sure this visit would push ahead friendly relations between our two countries. I must say the relations between Albania and Slovenia are based on a very sound foundation and there are many common factors that relate our two countries. My interlocutors have the same predisposition. They received us very warmly and in a friendly way.

President Berisha said he found a positive readiness for the deepening of cooperation. The main industries in which this cooperation may be further cemented will be agriculture, food industry, sea, air transport, and medicine. Soon we'll open respective embassies in both countries to facilitate the cooperation of mutual interests, he said. As for the Yugoslav issue in general and the Kosovo issue in particular, President Berisha said we share the same view about all these issues.

President Comments on Troop Movements in North

AU1211091192 Tirana ATA in English 0908 GMT 12 Nov 92

["Albania and the Albanians Will Always Be an Important Factor of Stability and Peace in the Balkans—President Sali Berisha Meets With CSCE Representative in Skopje"—ATA headline]

[Text] Tirana, November 12 (ATA)—On November 11, President Berisha met with the CSCE representative in Skopje, Ambassador Frowik. They focused on some problems of stability in the Balkans.

Ambassador Frowik expressed his worry over the course of events in former Yugoslavia. According to him the policy and diplomacy are not capable to cope with the worsening of situation in Bosnia-Hercegovina. He said that it is necessary [for] an energetic intervention by the international community. He was also worried over the situation in Macedonia and Kosovo.

Appreciating the efforts of Mr. Frowik to prevent conflict in former Yugoslavia, President Berisha said that Albania and the Albanians will always be an important factor of stability and peace in the Balkans. He supported the attitude of Mr. Rugova and the Albanian political forces to settle the problem through dialogue and peaceful means. We call on the Albanians wherever they are to avoid provocations organized by the Serbs in order to burst out the conflict in Macedonia or Kosovo. President Berisha insisted that the international community impose restrictive measures on Serbia.

The new elections in Serbia will be neither fair nor honest. Consequently, it is meaningless to take part in them. They may even legalize the dictatorship of Milosevic.

Concerning the movements of troops in the north, he said that it is not intended to worsen the situation, but it is done in the context of the reform in the army and this has been openly declared by Albania. Albania, said President Berisha, is ready to develop open international cooperation and support the measures to prevent the conflict.

Transportation Undergoes Complete Privatization

AU1211093992 Tirana ATA in English 1111 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Tirana, November 11 (ATA)—The ATA reporter learned in the Ministry of Transports that beginning with the end of last year and on, all the activity of taxes for the goods and passengers' transport, with about 400 transportation means, has been privatized. They were sold to their own drivers. During the same period, trucks with 80 to 100 percent amortization were privatized. They comprise 24 percent of the inventory of the Ministry of Transports and 29 percent of the interurban buses and those which run a service in the districts.

Privatization is now continuing on the basis of the activity and the enterprise. Recently, the procedure for the privatization of the enterprise of transportation and its affiliates in the district was over. Now it is up to the National Agency of Privatization to make the final decision. All the working people of this enterprise will profit from privatization. The objective of the Department of Privatization and Development in this ministry is to privatize all the transportation parks. The first to be privatized are the parks in the southern zone of the country.

Fair Treatment in EC Association Talks Demanded

AU1011124792 Sofia BTA in English 1052 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Sofia, November 10 (BTA)—Two Eastern Europes may emerge, if the EC does not treat Bulgaria the way it did Hungary, Poland and Czecho-Slovakia, Prime Minister Ilko Eskenazi, who coordinates the interdepartmental negotiating team in Bulgaria's association talks with the EC, says in an interview for DEMOKRATSIYA.

The sixth round of the association talks starts in Brussels today. The sides will discuss specific provisions in the draft agreement. Experts will hold parallel meetings on the liberalization of trade in farm produce, ferrous metals, textiles and textile articles.

Despite the political and economic importance for Bulgaria of the association with the EC this country should not join the European economic structures on its knees, Mr. Eskenazi says. The EC is now treating Bulgaria and Romania in a different way from Czecho-Slovakia, Hungary and Poland. The distance would grow in time leading to the emergence of two Eastern Europes, the Bulgarian deputy prime minister says.

The agreement with the EC would not only regulate bilateral trade, Mr. Eskenazi says. The sides are negotiating about a new generation of agreements of a significantly wider scope. The association agreement includes a chapter on political dialogue committing the sides to take into account each other's views in decisionmaking. It contains an extensive chapter on economic cooperation envisaging EC aid in the promotion of industry, agriculture, education and science in the associated country.

The association negotiations started in May 1992. By now the EC has been stipulating less favorable terms for Bulgaria than those agreed with the Central European states. It has set a 0.4 percent quota for Bulgarian and Romanian farming exports against 4 percent for Czecho-Slovakia, Hungary and Poland.

The reasons why the EC has hardened its stand are ongoing recession, the lack of stability, and the cabinet crisis in this country, according to Mr. Eskenazi.

According to Bulgarian Foreign Minister Stoyan Ganev, Bulgaria's position has been dignified but flexibility is important, too. Mr. Ganev told journalists yesterday he expected the association agreement to be signed by the end of 1992.

What is important are the results of the negotiations and not whether they will end a month earlier or later, Deputy Trade Minister Stanislav Daskalov, the chief Bulgarian negotiator, had said on completion of the fifth round earlier this year.

Round of Talks Ends

AU1211084392 Sofia BTA in English 2203 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Sofia, November 11 (BTA)—The sixth round of negotiations on Bulgaria's association with the EC ended in Brussels today.

Upon his return to Sofia Bulgaria's chief negotiator Stanislav Daskalov, deputy minister of trade, described the results as "carrying good chances of success."

According to Mr. Daskalov, the sides outlined ways to settle some difficult problems in agriculture and the export of wine and textiles. It would be difficult to reach understanding about the so-called "protection clause" concerning metals, Mr. Daskalov said. If a solution is found, the next round of negotiations scheduled for December 3 and 4 may be the last, Mr. Daskalov said.

According to Ms. Lea Koen, Bulgarian ambassador to Brussels, initially, the Bulgarian side sought to negotiate terms comparable to the best offered to Central European states, which was hardly possible. An EC delegation will visit Bulgaria later this week, Ms. Koen said. The EC and Bulgarian officials will discuss ways of clearing up difficulties and giving a final push to the talks, Ms. Koen said. The delegation will be received by President Zhelev.

Kostov on Progress at Frankfurt Foreign Debt Talks

AU0611202592 Sofia BTA in English 2004 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] Sofia, November 6 (BTA)—Bulgarian Finance Minister Ivan Kostov said he was pleased with the negotiations with Bulgaria's commercial creditor bank advisory committee presided by Deutsche Bank. "We have achieved some progress," Mr. Kostov said on his return from Frankfurt tonight, where the negotiations were held on November 5 and 6. Mr. Kostov assessed as extremely important the fact that the next round of talks was scheduled for early December.

The current round, which picked up the agenda of earlier sessions held at the beginning of October, focused on specific proposals for the settlement of Bulgaria's commercial debt. The parties reached agreement on the text of a protocol of principles providing the basis of a debt and debt service reduction deal. Acting on a proposal from the bank advisory committee, the Bulgarian delegation submitted a revised financial proposal based on the principles set out in the agreed protocol. The commercial creditor bank advisory committee agreed to study Bulgaria's revised financial proposal.

Finance Minister Kostov specified that unlike the previous protocol in which the parties' positions varied widely, they had now converged on a common framework of principles which clears the way for a comprehensive agreement.

Ganev on Greek Statement on Macedonia

AU1111101292 Sofia BTA in English 2032 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Sofia, November 10 (BTA)—Bulgarian Foreign Minister Stoyan Ganev, who appeared in a live show on National Television this evening, described as very important the announcement by the Greek Government spokesman that Greece wants all countries neighbouring on the Republic of Macedonia to confirm that they regard as inviolable their borders with that former Yugoslav Republic. According to Mr. Ganev, it is particularly important that in this announcement Greece declares itself in favour of a preservation of the territorial integrity of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

"We cannot but assess this announcement as a positive step towards building stability in the Balkans," Stoyan Ganev said. He recalled that the Bulgarian Government issued a declaration back on January 15, 1992, recognizing Macedonia as an independent state, recognizing the existing borders and taking a categorical stand in favour of guarantees for the territorial integrity of the Republic of Macedonia. Bulgaria will persevere in its efforts towards stability in the Balkans, Mr. Ganev emphasized.

Zhelev Agrees With Proposal

AU1111175292 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 1600 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Bulgaria supports the Greek proposal that the four countries bordering the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia declare the inviolability of its borders. President Zhelyu Zhelev told an AFP correspondent that the failure of the Western countries complicates the situation in Macedonia. Zhelev also said that he is concerned with the situation in Kosovo. He expressed concern with the possibility that the conflict between the predominantly Albanian population in this region and Serbia would expand to Macedonia. We want to maintain correct relations with our neighbor Serbia, but the present situation forces us to suspend all contacts with that country, which is the cause of all conflict in the former Yugoslavia, Zhelev said.

Commentary Says Serbian Embargo Has Unfair Effect

AU1011162392 Sofia KONTINENT in Bulgarian 3 Nov 92 p 6

[Commentary by Nikolay Nikolov: "Weights and Measures"]

[Text] The shortage of electric power and the high price that Bulgaria, in the throes of a severe economic and social crisis, is paying, in order to cope halfway with the situation this winter, raises numerous questions that should not only be considered in technical terms. Unfortunately, some purely abstract political considerations are also involved in the current circumstances.

The importing of electric power is inevitable, even if a regime of power cuts is introduced this winter. Electric power would be more expensive if imported from Western countries than if it came from neighboring countries.

Would this mean, however, that Bulgaria should refuse an advantageous offer from Serbia, which is subject to an international embargo, and should accept a disadvantageously high price from Turkey, for example, thus paying for international solidarity from its own scanty means? As much as we are eager to demonstrate good will, to conform with UN principles and the new political order, it is hardly likely that a Bulgarian citizen would prefer to sit in the dark or to pay debts throughout the coming years....To put it briefly, the price is too high, if not intolerable.

We already had to undergo the bitter experience of the embargo against Iraq, when along with oil deliveries, the payments of Iraqi debts toward Bulgaria (amounting to $1 billion), also ceased.

The truth is that international solidarity requires sacrifices, but if this should affect man's elementary rights and living conditions, it is up to the international community to render assistance and to find a solution of compromise. The truth is also that responsibilities and burdens should never be distributed with the chemist's scales, but rather be measured with the yardstick of justice.

Civic Initiative Asks Clinton Not To Recognize Partition

AU1211104092 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 9 Nov 92 p 2

[Unattributed report in the "News" column: "A Civic Initiative Is Writing a Letter to Clinton"]

[Text] The Civic Initiative for a Prosperous Czechoslovakia has called on U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton to resolutely reject Czechoslovakia's split without a referendum, which this civic initiative considers to be the only legal and legitimate way of deciding the Czechoslovak Federation's future.

Official Calls for Verdict on Gabcikovo

AU1111095892 Prague CSTK in English 1846 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] Brussels/Hague, Nov 6 (CSTK)—Through its campaign around the Gabcikovo project on the Danube, Hungary seeks to create an impression that Czechoslovakia is an unreliable partner fearing international arbitration, but the truth is quite contrary and Czechoslovakia will insist on an international verdict, Zdenko Pirek said in Brussels today.

Czechoslovakia's deputy foreign minister was speaking to journalists from leading European and world mass media, explaining Czechoslovakia's approach to solving its dispute with Hungary over the controversial hydroelectric project in south Slovakia, on the Czechoslovak-Hungarian border.

Pirek, who has been discussing the Gabcikovo problem with representatives of the European Community (EC) commission and the European Parliament since November 3, stressed that Czechoslovakia is ready to all reasonable compromises. It has pledged to respect recommendations by EC experts and a possible decision of the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Pirek noted.

He said too much precious time has been lost over the dispute, and added that more than a year ago Czechoslovakia suggested that the dispute be solved by an independent group of experts with the EC taking part. At that time Hungary rejected the proposal, Pirek said.

The water works started to be built jointly by Czechoslovakia and Hungary in 1978, but in 1989 Hungary unilaterally halted work on its part of the project at Nagymaros citing environmental reasons. In May 1992 Hungary rescinded its 1977 agreement with Czechoslovakia on the construction of the twin-dam project while Czechoslovakia went ahead with its part at Gabcikovo. Pirek met later in the day with Pier Dankert, state secretary in the Dutch Foreign Ministry, to explain to him Czechoslovakia's arguments in its dispute with Hungary over Gabcikovo.

The Dutch official said the Netherlands unequivocally supports the effort exerted by the EC Commission in solving the dispute, and appreciates the fact that the governments of Czechoslovakia and Slovakia accept this effort. He said that in his view the agreements on the mechanism of solving the dispute as reached in London October 28 are a breakthrough in the talks on the issue to date.

Commission Issues Dam Statement

AU1211103792 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 9 Nov 92 pp 1, 14

[Report by Jan Zoubek: "The EC Commission Issues a Statement on Gabcikovo"]

[Text] Brussels—The EC Commission issued a formal statement on the Gabcikovo water project on 6 November. Pablo Benavides, responsible within the EC Commission for relations with the countries of Central and East Europe, briefed our Brussels correspondent on the contents of the statement.

Pablo Benavides chairs the "international expert commission on Gabcikovo" established in London on 28 October.

It is apparent from the EC Commission statement that agreement with the continuation of essential work at Gabcikovo after a period of two weeks—and only work associated with the provisions necessary against possible flooding—does not mean preliminary agreement with the damming. The letter, sent by Franz Andriesen to the prime ministers, resolutely demands that work be suspended on 21 November.

Senior officials from the CSFR, Hungary, and the EC Commission will meet in Brussels on 27 November to review the results of the expert working group's activity and to formulate a possible final solution that will be binding for both sides in accordance with the London Agreement. The experts are paying most attention to issues concerning the environment and to the safeguards against flooding. They do not have a mandate for issues such as border changes.

The Federal Government is the partner in the negotiations, but the meeting between the republican governments in Czechoslovakia last week has emphasized that the Slovak Government will assume absolute responsibility for all the commitments made by the Federal Government. According to the EC Commission, agreement between the governments means the Czech Government is ready to bear its share of the costs associated with the possible destruction of the dam if international arbitration or the International Court in The Hague make such a decision. Pablo Benavides said that if work on the dam were to continue, this would be a gross violation of all the commitments made by the CSFR. He reiterated that the definitive damming of the Danube is not the issue.

The decision of the international arbitration (led by the EC Commission) on the fate of Gabcikovo will be definitive and binding for both the CSFR and Hungary. If no decision is made, the entire matter will be transferred to the International Court in The Hague. However, Hungary's request for the issue to be discussed here has been suspended in the expectation of a final verdict from the international arbitration. If no verdict is reached, Hungary's request will be automatically resubmitted, and Czechoslovakia has promised to accept the decision made in The Hague.

Talks Proceed About Visegrad Free Trade Zone

AU1011204592 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 3 Nov 92 p 31

[CSTK Budapest dispatch: "On the Free Trade Zone"]

[Text] Budapest—"The reason that the CSFR wants to sign the agreement on a free trade zone as soon as possible is not only to eliminate obstacles to free trade among the Visegrad countries, but also to make the whole region attractive to foreign investment," Jiri Brabec, head of the CSFR delegation to the talks on preparing this agreement, told the CSTK correspondent in Budapest yesterday.

"The elimination of obstacles to trade has become urgent particularly after all three Visegrad countries had signed association agreements with the EC and reduced customs barriers in relation to the EC but not among themselves," Brabec said.

During yesterday's talks in Budapest, representatives of the governments of Poland, Hungary, the CSFR, the Czech Republic, and the Slovak Republic discussed problems that had cropped up during preceding negotiations among experts. The talks will continue; groups of experts should prepare the text of the agreement on the creation of a free trade zone by the end of the week. Hungary and Poland want to sign the agreement by the end of November 1992.

EC Against Automatic Admittance of Republics

LD1211051992 Prague CSTK in English 2148 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Prague, Nov 11 (CSTK)—Jannis Sakellariou, European Parliament rapporteur for the European Community (EC) association agreement with Czechoslovakia, today said he stands against automatic succession of the Czech and Slovak Republics to Czechoslovakia's association with the EC.

Addressing a session of the Czechoslovak Federal Assembly (parliament) Foreign Committees as a guest, Sakellariou said the problem does not rest in the EC's unwillingness to sign the respective association agreements. He said the successor states should as soon as possible join European agreements in the fields of trade and technology, the development of science and education, and environmental protection.

He said, however, that he does not conceal his scepticism about the possibility of some other country becoming an EC member by the year 2000, which applies to the countries of the Visegrad Troika (Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary).

Czechoslovakia signed association accords with the EC in December 1991. Talks are now under way on whether the accords will be smoothly and quickly transferred to the successor states of Czechoslovakia once it splits into independent Czech and Slovak Republics as of January 1, 1993, or whether they will have to be renegotiated.

Spanish Cooperation Treaty Ratified

LD1111062492 Prague Stanice Ceskoslovensko Radio Network in Czech 1200 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jozef Moravcik and Spanish Ambassador to Czechoslovakia Robert Bermudez Ruiz today exchanged the ratification credentials to the Treaty on Friendly Relations and Cooperation between the two countries. The treaty is due to come into effect on 10 December.

Along with the treaties with Germany, France, Poland, and Bulgaria, this treaty is creating a legal framework for incorporating the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic into the system of European security and cooperation.

Klaus Views Division of Federal Assets

LD1111171892 Prague Stanice Praha Radio Network in Czech 1802 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Interview with Czech Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus by correspondent Katerina Kasparov on 10 November; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Kasparova] As was expected the most problematic issue in the process of disintegration of the Federation is the division of its assets. Although you failed to reach a final solution during the talks with the Slovak Government on 9 November, at least you managed to narrow your differences. You have agreed to form a joint six-member commission that will draft an addendum to the constitutional law on the division of assets. What will be the content of this addendum?

[Klaus] We know very well that the division of assets is a sort of special problem, a unique thing. Although we wish it to be based on clear principles, and I have always been promoting this, there will naturally be some exceptions since property is a complex thing. If you remember I said two months ago that there would be principles. But if there is a Blue Mauritius in the country it will not be divided in the ratio 2:1 and nothing else will be done with it. Simply, it will be treated as an exception. The commission will have to deal with many such small exceptions. I consider this to be natural. I think that we

have made another step forward. The 31st of December is getting closer and everyone is aware that it must not be complicated by this problem or collapse because of it. Somebody said yesterday that in every marriage [as heard] the division of property is a terribly complicated thing, but on the other hand not a single marriage was saved because they failed to divide the property. I believe that this will be the case with our Federation, too.

[Kasparova] Despite all the efforts, however, it can happen that the Federal Assembly blocks the law on ending the Federation and the law on its division. As Vladimir Meciar said, both governments would also be preparing an alternative way of disintegration through an agreement between the republics confirmed by national councils. You will need the opposition, however, for both these steps. What, in your view, will be easier? To negotiate with the opposition in the Federal Assembly or in the Czech National Council?

[Klaus] Well, an opposition is an opposition and to negotiate with it will never be easy, of course. I think, however, that the opposition is also beginning to sense that if it wants to argue with us it should argue about something which will not be harmful for it in the long run. I believe that it will start to realize that the card of the Federation and the common state that it is playing now so suddenly is at the moment nonsensical, however virtuous it might be—I myself played it when I thought it was playable. I think that this cannot do the opposition any good in terms of future voters. I believe that at some point the opposition will abandon this view.

[Kasparova] The Czech National Council as well as the Slovak parliament must debate all the agreements about future cooperation of the two republics and it will either approve them or not. The deputies to the Czech parliament already discussed the first 16 agreements reached at Javorina and it seems that 15 of them will be passed at a plenary session next week. Problems began with the agreement on personal documents, travel documents, driving licenses, and registration of weapons and ammunition. It seems that the Czech National Council will demand that the last part be excluded from the agreement. Have you discussed this with your Slovak partners?

[Klaus] I did not discuss this particular matter with them yesterday. But I remember that this issue caught my attention before when we were concluding the agreements. [passage omitted]

Since both interior ministers, and I stress both interior ministers, were recommending this, the governments, after expressing few objections, stopped debating the subject and approved it as it was. If the same problem appeared in the Czech National Council, I think it is necessary that the interior minister goes and tries to explain the matter. But I personally do not mind whether hunting weapons will or will not be contained in the agreement. I think that this is not a problem. It really is not.

[Kasparova] When we take a general look at the problem what will happen if one of the parliaments does not recommend the agreement?

[Klaus] Rapid talks will have to follow, rapid talks about what problematic sentence concerns and whether both parliaments and governments can reach an agreement on such a problematic sentence. In such a case it does not matter to me if the Hunters' Union will protest. I believe that the core of the problem does not rest in this, truly not.

[Kasparova] The treaties on which you failed to reach an agreement yesterday will come on the agenda of the next meeting of both governments. This time it will not be a meeting of the whole governments but rather of their presidiums which will be held in two weeks time. This will include, among other things, the sphere of defense and the division of the Czechoslovak Army. Slovak Interior Minister Jozef Tuchyna said that the Czech proposals are unacceptable. Where will the Czech side have to make concessions?

[Klaus] I think that to say that the proposal is unacceptable is an unnecessarily exaggerated formulation. If I understand the matter correctly then there are three subjects in the given moment. When, for instance, there is a treaty between Ministries of the Interior then it is a treaty where there exist two Ministries of the Interior who will reach some kind of an agreement between them. When we are however talking about defense there does not exist either the Czech or the Slovak Ministry of Defense. In fact there exist at the republican governments only commissioners and the Federal Ministry of Defense functions. It seems to me that the dispute, which Mr. Tuchyna has stressed, is a dispute between him and federal generals. It is not a dispute between the Czech and Slovak side. It is simply not true to interpret the matter that these are Czech proposals. This is simply a dispute between Slovak representatives in the Slovak Government, including Minister Tuchyna and generals at the Ministry of Defense. Therefore, once again, from our viewpoint this is not a dispute with myself or somebody else in the Czech Government. I am not worried that this dispute will not be resolved. What concerns us rather are technical matters, what should be the division of the antiair defense. It is unnecessary to seek in it something far profound.

[Kasparova] Because of the talks on future cooperation with the Slovak Republic, other essential matters are somewhat being neglected such as for instance the first budget of the Czech State. Prime Minister, at what stage is its preparation?

[Klaus] Because of the talks we have had little time. This does not mean that we are not working on the budget. I have to divulge that the budget has reached at least such a form that it could have been submitted to the meeting of the Council of Economic Ministries of the Czech Government. It does not mean that it has been approved

in that form. On the contrary, we sent it back to Minister Kocarnik with a number of objections. [passage omitted]

The first several-hours-long meeting of all government's economic ministers on this matter has taken place. Another such meeting should take place in the course of this week.

[Kasparova] The first quarter of 1993 will be financially quite tense. Before the tax reform gets going there will be no income into the budget. Do you think that the draft budget takes into account a danger of this type?

[Klaus] It does take this into account. [passage omitted]

Klaus, Meciar Discuss Common Concerns

LD0911225692 Prague Stanice Ceskoslovensko Radio Network in Czech 1716 GMT 9 Nov 92

[Question and answer session at news conference given by Czech Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus and Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar following Czech-Slovak intergovernmental talks in Zidlochovice on 9 November; Meciar speaks in Slovak—live]

[Text] [Moderator] Your questions, please.

[Cermak] I would like to pose questions to both prime minister concerning the issues of the customs and tax border, though you have not reached an agreement on this today. How long do you think the so-called provisional version will last before the real customs and tax border will be imposed, I mean the administrative one? Providing that the taxes will be taken out from one pack, let us say 2:1, is it going to be disadvantageous for one of the republics in any way?

[Meciar] The issues of the customs and tax border were the subject of our talks—and in two weeks' time the presidia of the governments will meet and at their meeting the ministers will put forward a proposal of a comprehensive course of action in order to take into account administrative considerations and economic interests of the two sides and to consider also some organizational issues because the traffic of a great number of vehicles etc on roads of the other side is of such a volume that all the measures have to take into account technical considerations.

[Klaus] If I can add something to make it more precise, I do agree, but I would like to clarify it for journalists. We are looking at the internal border which would be more or less an administrative solution taken by finance bodies, without being forced to implement the actual border—Na Bumbalce, near Jablunkov, or nearby Velky Kopernik [pauses], Lopenik, etc. This is how to do it—attempting to carry it out without implementing physical control of goods. This was given as a task to the finance ministers. We have drafted documents, but so far each side on its own; the proposals of each side are a bit different. Thus the issue is to harmonize them on the basis of the same principle.

[Moderator] I see you requesting the floor. Mr. Novak of MLADA FRONTA.

[Novak] It was still at Javorina when the Slovak side introduced the issue of the golden treasure of the Slovak State from 1939-45, of course in the context of a division of the Federation's assets. Could you tell us whether you have concluded this matter today and what is the result, please?

[Meciar] Talks between the governments also touched upon this problem, as well as on many others. The new element is the fact that both sides appointed three-member commissions, which will prepare a draft agreement on a division of assets—providing the law is adopted by the Federal Assembly, in harmony with this law. In case this law is blocked by any method, then in harmony with the interests in proper running of economic and social life. As far as the historical principle as one of the starting ways for dividing assets is concerned, it has the form derived not only from 1939, 1945 but also other aspects. The two sides confirmed it was possible to withdraw this principle at any time, and to compensate for it through other issues.

[Klaus] I can tell you, the issue of Slovakia's seven tonnes of gold will not cause problems in the course of dividing the Czechoslovak Federation.

[Meciar] I confirm that we have agreed upon this.

[Moderator] Thank you. Over to Czechoslovak Television, Mr. Severa.

[Severa] [words indistinct] to determine the points of the third round of coupon privatization?

[Klaus] Well, that is an interesting question, I think. Let us look at two separate issues. One is the agreement on the protection of investment, which we have approved today, and the other is the settlement of property issues.

As for the former, the agreement on the protection of investment applies to every investment that has been made. In this sense, it also applies to the special investment, which would have been made through coupons or coupon privatization. In this sense it is an investment like any other. All articles of the agreement on the protection of investment apply to it. The agreement bans expropriation, nationalization, and so on, of anybody. It covers all investments. In other words, no holder of a coupon booklet can lose his share which he would have acquired in the first wave of coupon privatization in exchange for his coupons.

This is an assurance to the individual investor, whereby I mean both the holder of coupons and investment privatization funds.

What the actual overall effect on property will be, however, we are unable to say today before the final rounds are over. We don't even know the results of the fourth round of coupon privatization today. We cannot say anything at all yet. Any observations that today

things are going one way or another may have to be radically changed after the next round or rounds.

In other words, the issue of overall settlement in case the discrepancy is unsatisfactory or too big would be subject of the agreement on the division of assets.

[Moderator] Thank you. PRACE, please.

[Reporter] [words indistinct] you have told us what you had agreed on, I would like to ask you what have you left on the table and if you are to meet again in the same composition, or if there will only be meetings of individual ministers, according to special areas?

[Meciar] The agreement is that only the presidia of governments will meet, and this will be in two weeks' time, in Slovakia, we are still to specify the venue, and the relevant ministers will present reports on behalf of their ministries. Some issues in the process of defense still remain open, and we will present those as one package. Some issues connected with the legal aspect of settlement of property-related issues still remain, and we would like to make further progress at our next talks. There still remain some issues connected with criminal proceedings which we would like to settle, and some individual economic issues which are to make the whole system of economic activities function properly further without any side-effects are still open.

[Unidentified speaker] I should like to add that issues connected with mass media, that is Czechoslovak television, Czechoslovak radio, and CSTK will be on the agenda of the talks on 23 November.

[Moderator] Mr. Vinkler from RUDE PRAVO, please.

[Vinkler] You have indicated, I think, that there is no complete agreement on the defense issue. What new problems have emerged there? And my second question: Have you discussed the future fate of Federal Assembly deputies?

[Meciar] Concerning your first question about defense, the differences in views are more of a technical issue. The issue is about some archive materials, air force operations, division of military staff, or systems of command. There exists one command center (?which is connected) with division of technology. These are not fundamental issues, these are issues that remain open and can be resolved. The governments today have opened the path.

Concerning the fate of deputies. In Javorina we discussed the principle that Federal Assembly deputies themselves were to decide about their fate. Government did not assume the right in Javorina or today to initiate a process which would result in legislative amendments concerning the mandate of Federal Assembly deputies.

[Moderator] Thank you. Slovak television, please.

[Reporter] What would mutual settlement in the convertible currency sphere look like?

[Klaus] The convertible currency sphere is not a separate sphere, it will be, naturally, a part of a general property-related settlement and what I have just said, that we had concluded an agreement in the convertible currency sphere—this is more or less an agreement which is a supplement to the agreement on the currency, on the currency arrangement and it is more or less the second half of this currency arrangement, and it will be valid for the same period as the agreement on the currency. This is, I think, the most important point. The arrangement in the convertible currency sphere is a part of the basic property-related arrangement and it is not separate from it, it does not have its own special principles.

[Moderator] Thank you. NARODNA OBRODA.

[Reporter] What about Czechoslovak receivables abroad and what will happen if, in the context of the break-up of the state, the debtors refuse to pay their debts?

[Meciar] That is a question dealt with by international law—succession, [words indistinct] manner of extraction of these arrears. The agreement is such that receivables listed with the Czechoslovak State Bank, as they were presented today, and according to the amounts we were told, will be divided in the 2:1 ratio; receivables listed with the Czechoslovak Trade Bank will undergo special treatment. They will be adjusted by the ministers of finance, and we will know the outcome after the two weeks we mentioned, because item by item will be considered individually and the 2:1 principle will be observed as well as the principle—proposed by the Slovak side and not rejected by the Czech—of the consumption of the receivable [as heard]. That means taking into account the place of investment, the place of application of the investment and so on which, true, is quite difficult to prove, but we presume that we shall manage to do so within a reasonable compromise.

On our part there is no interest in starting a contradiction, or inciting small squabbles over insubstantial sums. On the other hand we appreciate the goodwill of the Czech side and we have seen that the discussion in the Czech Government reflected an effort to achieve an agreement, that both of us are approaching these process in an objective way. There is no inclination on either side to extremism.

As for the value relations, the ratios and so on—things that somebody might say could have been done in a different way—that is a matter of later interpretation, but we are opting for certainty for the nearest future instead of protracted, not very useful, and harmful disputes.

As for the issue of the Slovak gold treasure, I would like to explain this matter to the press as well as to the Slovak public, since for many it is a very sensitive matter because during the Slovak State [during World War II], at a time of scarcity of gold, they gave their rings, they gave bracelets, gave chains, somebody gave teeth—all that to build up the treasury. These people are now asking where it is. But it is somewhere in that heap of 105

tonnes. If an agreement is signed and a settlement reached on this amount, we have to say that that is the gold from Slovakia since it cannot be individually identified any more [sentence as heard].

So neither party is interested in such a conflict of opinion which would stop this process.

[Klaus] I would just like to say that we have had at our disposal several analytical pieces of material. They ranged from the quantitatively specific to detailed analyses of the ins and outs of succession in different areas. The materials were more or less a background for the negotiations. We have nominated a three-member group on behalf of each side. There will thus be a six-member commission, which we assume will be dealing with these issues from now on. We assume that the commission will survive the split of the federation and will carry on working.

[Moderator] Thank you.

[Reporter] ZYCIE WARSZAWY. Mr. Prime Minister, I don't have a question to ask you. I would merely like to say that as for conditions for the work of journalists, none have been created. There is no [word indistinct] of quality, no telephone [word indistinct], no fax. Thank you very much.

[Moderator] Thank you. PRACA, please.

[Reporter] [words indistinct] which the Czech side is asserting, the Slovak side has come with an alternative of a contribution of the Slovak state to the common state after 1945, could you specify what you agreed on in this respect?

[Klaus] We did not conclude any agreements on division of assets today. I hope that this is obvious. We have had several preliminary background documents, which have existed already as a supplement to a law that is already in the Federal Assembly and that which we have been deliberating today was more or less an attempt to find common issues, which we could tell our deputies in the Federal Assembly about and so on. We have not issued any document here on this, I think this is evident. I think that it is a question of historical principle, which represents about 1.5 percent of the total of assets, this is being blown out of proportion, overestimated, and I do not feel I need to comment on it at all. We will quite happily cross this word out [as heard]. This is no detriment, or victory for anyone. If I can suggest something, let us not turn this into a headline issue in a report from this meeting. This is not an issue, really. But the second half of the issue, as you have said: In order to prevent any debates on division of assets, opening of some kind of a Pandora's box about succession, or continuity and discontinuity of Czechoslovakia—then for this reason we are willing to abandon the historic principle because it would be quite unnecessary to open this problem now in this connection.

[Moderator] Thank you. Press agency of the Slovak Republic, please.

[Reporter] (?In connection with division of assets) I would like to ask, as Slovak Minister of Economy Cernak said that a considerable discussion is expected on the assessment of assets of those enterprises which until 1990 were included in the budget of the Federation [words indistinct] and then went under the administration of the Czech Republic or became corporations. How will these enterprises be viewed? Will they be multinational companies? How will the financial settlement be done? And concerning financial relations, how will the issues connected with quotas, if the IMF or the World Bank do not accept the quotas divided in a 2:1 ratio, if there is a different ratio, (?if) the Czech Republic accepts financial settlement?

[Meciar] Concerning the issue mentioned by you, there was a discussion about it but not an extensive one because political decisions are being taken [words indistinct] and all these issues would be dealt with in individual agreements and talks which will concern these individual kind of assets. I think this is possibly Article 14, section one to five, if I remember well. There is no disagreement, unwillingness, a principle has been agreed on in this respect, which will be followed not only in this type of asset, but in others as well. Concerning your other question connected with IMF, the right to divide quotas is the IMF right, it can, according to its own criteria, say who will get what part of assets and this will then have a direct influence on credits.

The other issue is the issue of our internal settlement which is not connected with this IMF decision and respects the ratio 2:1 between us. Thus the actual financial state deposited money (?is as according to) the IMF and in the global framework—by an agreement, or by other rules this principle will be taken into account [sentence as heard].

[Moderator] Thank you. Last four questions, please. Over to Slovak Television.

[Reporter] [words indistinct] cultural and historical heritage between the Slovak and Czech Republics. If there is one, have you tried to come to an agreement or to make a specific draft agreement?

[Klaus] No.

[Meciar] There has been no draft agreement. These are issues left to be discussed by the ministers of culture.

[Moderator] ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY, if you please.

[Reporter] I would like to ask a question on defense. Who will take on the UN role, which has up to now belonged to the Czechoslovak Army?

[Klaus] Both republics; both successor states.

[Meciar] The defense ministers will agree with each other on the ratio.

[Moderator] SVOBODNE SLOVO now, please.

[Reporter] You have also mentioned higher military education. In the next year, will it remain exactly as it stands and falls? And another question: You have mentioned transport, namely railway. I am interested in that.

[Meciar] Military education has been subject to special negotiations. There is effort on both sides to let not just military but also secondary education run its course in the academic year 1992-93 within the range in which it is being prepared now. Technical conditions will be subject to further discussion among ministers. They are due to complete the draft wihin a fortnight to be submitted to the presidia of the [Czech and Slovak] Governments. There have been no fundamental problems about this. The idea is to give people assurance that they will complete the current academic year. There will be new agreements concluded about the next one.

[Klaus] As for the railways, nothing has been specified and there is no division and so on. No question of dividing exists there, merely one of agreeing on future cooperation.

[Moderator] Thank you. Next please.

[Reporter] I have two questions. [words indistinct] you have also agreed on a framework agreement between the Czech and Slovak Republics. I would be interested to know whether it also contains closing statements, which would set out, among other things, the conditions under which these agreements can be abrogated. My second question is which of the laws, the one on the end of the federation or that on the division of assets, will come before the Federal Assembly first?

[Meciar] As for the first part of the question, the agreement on good neighborly relations, friendship and cooperation, it has been concluded for 15 years. Unless it is abrogated, it will be automatically extended for another five years. Both our sides are glad of this. It sets out the main framework of cooperation including the regulations concerning the executive and empowering regulations for the government and the ministries to work further on the agreement. It is essentially a rough foundation structure on which the rest of the building grows.

You asked which will come first, the law on the division of assets or the law on the way of ending the federation. Well, it has already come to the federation [as heard]. The law on the division of assets has just come on the table. It will be subject to a session of comments.

At any rate, both governments reckon with the possible emergence of other views or obstructions, not only from within our coalition of the Civic Democratic Party and the Movement for Democratic Slovakia, which could cause a blockage because a three-fifths majority is required. The governments will therefore continuously work on the preparation of an alternative in the form of an agreement between the republics, which would be endorsed by the national councils.

[Moderator] And the last question. The lady in the back from Czechoslovak Radio. Czechoslovak Radio! You have the floor.

[Reporter] I am not a lady, but I am from Czechoslovak Radio. Does the friendship agreement also presume the establishment of foreign missions, and what kind of function should they have and when will they be established?

[Meciar] No, it does not. That will be done on the basis of notes; notes which will be mutually exchanged by the parties and with which the parties will recognize one another and establish diplomatic relations. Since the draft of this agreement was submitted by the Slovak side, we said that we asked that the note by which the republics would recognize one another as states be initiated by the Czech Republic, and that that would be accepted with gratitude and responded to by the Slovak Republic.

As for the stand on recognition, different states have different stands but only from the point of view of speed. The first recognition—and if you will excuse me, I will keep the name of the country secret for the time being—is expected on 16 December and should come into effect on 1 January.

[Klaus] If I could add something. I heard something odd in the question. Something I do not understand. What will be the function of these missions? I really do not understand that question. The function will be just the same as the function of any other foreign mission anywhere in the world.

[Moderator] Thank you. So, last question. Slovak Radio.

[Reporter] I wanted to ask about the agreement on cooperation and good neighborliness. How will that differ from common international agreements and what are its specific features?

[Klaus] I must say that it would be necessary to have the agreement here. There is not a single reason why the agreement should not be given to the public for appraisal—after we sign it. But the agreement is, in a certain sense, a standard one but, just as the agreement on the customs union is and is not a standard agreement, in this case, too, we took out some sentences, which sounded good for two alien states in the past but did not sound good in our case. So in this sense the agreement is narrower because of the absence of what I said and that is why, I think, it sounds friendlier than the standard agreements.

[Moderator] Thank you, prime ministers. Thank you all for your patience. Goodbye, ladies and gentlemen.

Union Head Finds Fault in Draft Constitution

AU1111140492 Prague CSTK in English 1756 GMT 9 Nov 92

[Text] Prague, Nov 9 (CSTK)—The move to shift federal deputies from soon to be defunct Federal Assembly to the Czech National Council is utterly rejected by the Czech and Slovak Confederation of Trade Unions, its chairman Richard Falbr told a press conference here today.

Falbr referred to a draft of the Czech Republic constitution just completed the Czech Government and its pending delivery to the Czech legislature slated to take place early this week. Furthermore, Falbr doubted that the voters would approve the shift and stated that Article 19 of the draft requires that the 81 Czech senators must be chosen directly by the electorate in addition to the 200 members of the Lower House.

The trade union leader did not consider the existence of a Czech bicameral parliament to be justifiable, saying there were other ways to replace senate's jurisdictions. Among these would be a suspensory veto by the Czech Republic president or a double reading of a legislation by the existing single chamber. The experience from the thirties shows that a bicameral system is not viable. It is rather a matter of doling out sinecures to few, Falbr remarked.

The labor leader was also displeased noting that the governmental draft omitted to include the charter of fundamental rights and freedoms and reiterated that there was no way the trade unions would abandon their effort to have the fundamental social rights spelled out in the constitution. Falbr pointed out other legislative shortcomings of the proposal and called these ubiquitous.

Falbr would also like to see the constitution adopted not by a simple majority in the parliament but by a three-fifths vote and called this a more socially stabilizing approach. Therefore, if only a simple majority vote is chosen then it would make sense to Falbr that popular referendum be held on the constitution.

Constitution's Basic Provisions

LD2111182992 Prague CSTK in English 2206 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Prague, Nov 10 (CSTK)—The draft Czech Constitution as proposed by the Czech Government and passed to the Czech National Council (parliament) for debate today is divided into eight chapters starting with the preamble.

The first chapter contains fundamental provisions. It states that the Czech Republic is a sovereign, united, and democratic law-observing state respecting fundamental human rights and freedoms. These rights are protected by judicial power.

That part of the Constitution dealing with fundamental human rights arose controversies on the Czech political scene. While the government coalition favoured incorporating the current Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms in an abridged form only, the left-wing opposition still insists that the Constitution contain the current charter of fundamental rights and freedoms in full. The charter was adopted by Czechoslovakia's Federal Assembly (parliament) in January 1991.

The draft's second chapter dealing with legislative power states that the parliament of the Czech Republic, which is to come into being after Czechoslovakia's division into independent Czech and Slovak Republics in January, will be bicameral. It will consist of a House of Representatives corresponding to the current 200-seat Czech National Council, and a Senate comprising 81 senators over the age of 40.

Deputies to the House of Representatives will be elected for four years while the senators' term of office will be six years, with one third of them being altered every two years. After the first elections to the Senate, a draw would determine one-third of the senators who will stay in office for only two years, and one-third whose election term will be four years.

Under the Constitution, the House of Representatives can be dissolved by the president. The Senate cannot be dissolved.

The House of Representatives will discuss all bills, the Senate will deal with all constitutional laws and international agreements at the level of constitutional laws. The Senate will not approve the state budget and final state account.

An absolute majority of votes of all deputies in both houses will be required for a constitutional law to be passed. The president will have the right to return to the parliament only constitutional laws. If a law is rejected by the Senate or if a constitutional law is returned by the president, it will need a more qualified majority.

The opposition has insisted on a three-fifths majority of votes to be necessary for draft laws to be approved because the coalition parties can easily secure an absolute majority for their bills, without the opposition. Under the draft, interpellations will have to be presented by at least ten members of the House of Representatives.

The third chapter sets the powers of the president and the government. The presidential term is to be five years and no one can be elected for more than two terms in succession. The president cannot be dismissed from the post.

The president, who must be over 40 years of age, will be elected separately by both houses of the parliament. An absolute majority of all their members will be needed for his election.

The other chapters of the draft Constitution cover judicial power, the Supreme Audit Office, the Czech National Bank, the territorial government, and common provisions.

As regards territorial arrangement, the Czech Republic is to be divided into municipalities and higher self-administered units called provinces, regions or lands. They will be administered by their legislative bodies whose powers will be set down by law. The name of a higher self-administered unit will be decided by its legislative body at its first session.

The Czech Constitution is to come into force January 1, 1993, on the day of the Czechoslovak Federation's split.

The Slovak Constitution was adopted July 17 and became valid October 1. Being continuously opposed to the government draft, the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party (CSSD) intends to present its own draft constitution for the Czech Republic. It differs from the government draft in that it requires a three-fifths majority of votes for approval of constitutional laws, provides for a unicameral parliament, for direct presidential elections and for the Czechoslovak Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms to be part of the constitution in the form of an addendum.

Union Leader Warns Government on 'Social Peace'

AU1011192392 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 5 Nov 92 p 1

[CSTK report: "The Government Does Not Fulfill the General Agreement"]

[Text] Prague (CSTK)—In the opinion of Richard Falbr, president of the Czech and Slovak Confederation of Trade Unions [CSKOZ], the representatives of the Federal Government in the tripartite council are trying to make it seem as though the commitments arising from the General Agreement were being complied with. In an open letter addressed to Federal Prime Minister Jan Strasky yesterday, Richard Falbr therefore wrote that the CSKOZ refuses to keep quiet any longer about the government's failure, in contravention of the General Agreement, to submit to the social partners draft laws, the adoption of which is of fundamental importance for terminating the federation's existence in a constitutional manner. The situation is absolutely intolerable and fills us with concern, Richard Falbr told journalists yesterday. In this context, the CSKOZ representatives expressed their apprehension about social unrest. Social reform is not coming about, in their opinion, and, unless the CSFR Government changes its present attitude, the CSKOZ will no longer be able to bear responsibility for maintaining social peace. According to the CSKOZ, the turning point in the Federal Government's attitude toward the tripartite council occurred in September when Deputy Prime Minister Miroslav Macek proposed the abolition of the federal tripartite council.

Klaus Expects 5 to 6 Percent Price Increase

AU1211085392 Prague CSTK in English 2109 GMT 3 Nov 92

[Text] Prague, Nov 3 (CSTK)— A draft budget for the Czech Republic for the next year was the main topic of today's meeting of Czech Government economic ministers, the Czechoslovak Television said tonight.

According to its information, the Czech budget is being prepared in two versions because it is not yet clear whether a new taxation system will be introduced as of January 1, 1993, or later.

Czech Premier Vaclav Klaus said on television he expects the new taxation system in itself to cause a rise in prices by 5 to 6 percent.

Klaus Speaks About Investment Incentives

AU1011140592 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 6 Nov 92 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Czech Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus by Marcela Doleckova; place and date not given: "Joining EC Within Five Years"]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Doleckova] You met with European Bank President Attali recently. Did you come closer to an agreement on the role of that bank?

[Klaus] I am afraid that the European Bank has maintained different ideas. According to that bank, the limiting factor is shortage of capital, and I believe this is wrong. First, we need good projects, and as soon as the projects turn up, the capital will follow.

[Doleckova] Do you have the impression that foreign investors hesitate today before entering the Czech scene?

[Klaus] I have not noticed any loss of interest.

[Doleckova] The Slovak Republic is prepared to give foreign investors tax breaks. Will the Czech lands revert to such measures?

[Klaus] I do not consider tax breaks an incentive for foreign investors. I do not advocate privileges. Namely, we inherited the world built on privileges, and we are trying for the opposite—to eliminate them. [passage omitted]

Czech, Slovak Republics To Introduce New Taxes

AU1111142592 Prague CSTK in English 1847 GMT 9 Nov 92

[Text] Prague, Nov 9 (CSTK)—Czech Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus today told journalists that a new reformed taxation system will be introduced in both the Czech and Slovak Republics on January 1, 1993.

Until now, it had not been sure whether both republics will start the new system in January when the Czechoslovak federation is bound to split into two independent

states. The Slovak Republic said it was not sure whether it will be technically ready for the new taxation system.

Speaking after a meeting between the Czech and Slovak Governments in Zidlochovice, south Moravia, Klaus and Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar said that the Czech and Slovak finance ministers will for another two weeks work on a joint proposal to set up a customs and taxation border between the two republics in order to make physical control of goods unnecessary.

Meciar said the joint proposal should be submitted to the presidiums of the republic governments, which will met in Slovakia in a fortnight.

Klaus told journalists that the stands of the Czech and Slovak Governments on the division of federal property today came closer to one another to a certain degree after the Czech side expressed general agreement with the Slovak Government's comments on the Federal Government draft law. He did not elaborate. This gives a certain chance to the document when it is discussed in the Federal Assembly, Klaus added.

He said that the following agreements are practically ready for signing:

- A draft treaty of good neighborhood, friendly relations and cooperation
- A draft agreement preventing double taxation as regards the income and property taxes
- A draft agreement preventing double taxation as regards death duty and gift tax
- A draft agreement on promotion and mutual protection of investment
- A draft agreement on foreign exchange relations
- A draft agreement on cooperation in transport and telecommunications
- A draft agreement on cooperation and mutual relations in farming, the food industry, forestry, and water management
- A draft agreement on relations after the division of the Czechoslovak Army.

Klaus said consensus has not yet been reached on a draft agreement on defense.

The Czech and the Slovak Republics will not join a free trade agreement between the Visegrad Troika (Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland) as members of the Czechoslovak federation, but only as two independent states, Klaus said.

We do not consider it relevant for important documents to be signed by representatives of the Federal Government and not representatives of the republic governments, he said.

Klaus said representatives of Poland and Hungary will soon be informed about this agreement. He added that the free trade agreement is to be signed in Krakow on November 28. Klaus said that the agreement on protection of investment approved today also fully applies to investments made through coupon privatization. Before the final rounds of privatization we are not capable of saying what the impact of the federation's split on the results of coupon privatization will be, Klaus said.

Meciar said that Czechoslovakia's debts with the Czechoslovak State Bank will be divided between the two republics in the 2:1 proportion, while debts with "Ceskoslovenska obchodni banka" (Czechoslovak Trade Bank) will be divided according to a special regime to be worked out by the two republics' finance ministries.

Replying to a question from CSTK till when revenue authorities will play the role of customs offices between the Czech and Slovak Republics, Czech Finance Minister Ivan Kocarnik said that if they worked well, they could do so permanently.

Slovak Deputy Prime Minister Roman Kovac said that originally, we did not count with building customs offices. But we knew that it will be necessary to protect both republics from the point of view of taxes. This protection is necessary because of big tax evasions in both republics, Kovac said.

Meciar said that the republic governments do not think they have the power to initiate a process that would legislatively define the future of the Federal Assembly deputies.

The assembly will end its activity as of December 31, 1993, when Czechoslovakia will cease to exist. Klaus's Civic Democratic Party (ODS) advocates the idea of the deputies' becoming members of a second house of the Czech parliament, the senate, whose establishment is proposed in a draft Czech constitution. Meciar's Movement for a Democratic Slovakia (HZDS) is opposed to the idea of the federal deputies becoming members of the Slovak parliament.

Meciar also said that the Czech and Slovak Governments will prepare an alternative way of ending the Federation—through an agreement between the two republics, which would be confirmed by the republic parliaments. This alternative is to be used in case the Federal Assembly does not approve bills on ending the Federation and on federal property division. The two bills are to be discussed by the Federal Assembly when it resumes its 5th session on Wednesday [11 November].

Antall Hails Success of Yeltsin Visit

LD1111230292 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1730 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Statement by Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall at a joint news conference with Russian President Boris Yeltsin in Atrium Hyatt Hotel, Budapest on 11 November—recorded]

[Text] This day represents for us a truly historic turning point, for during the whole time of our government we have endeavored to settle our relations first with the former USSR then with the successor states of the USSR, and to open a new chapter of history between the two peoples. I think that the fact that the president [Yeltsin] also referred to in today's talks, in his speech in the parliament and in the separate talks too, that we not only stood alongside democratic Russia and the president at once during the time of the coup, but on 6 December, while the USSR still existed, we were the first to sign a bilateral agreement with the new Russia, this fact, that we signed this first agreement, the basic treaty, with the new Russia, Russia under the leadership of President Yeltsin, indicated the direction of our policy.

Our aim has always been to accelerate the withdrawal of the Soviet troops, to achieve the dissolution of the alliance standing on the bases of the Warsaw Pact, the cessation of the CEMA [Council of Mutual Economic Assistance], so that we should be able to place our relations with Russia and the member states of the one-time USSR on new bases. We want and wanted to wind up the past, so that new kinds of relations should be able to develop that are not overshadowed by the past.

The first most significant result is that we managed to agree on mutually renouncing the material demands against each other—this is the so-called zero balance agreement. This agreement only contains this fact. Alongside this, we signed a memorandum also saying that Hungary would give humanitarian aid in the form of medicines and would examine the possibility of how we can contribute to helping the contruction of accommodations on Russian territory.

In our trade agreement—according to which we have a demand of $1.7 billion against Russia, which undertakes this as the successor state of the USSR, as its legal successor—we have now been able to reach agreement on some questions, and also, we will sign by December the new agreement which will settle this too, once and for all. As a part of this, Russia has undertaken to supply the Hungarian Army with the necessary spare parts needed for the maintenance of the army, for its technical maintenance, to keep it in the appropriate condition. I would like to emphasize that this agreement does not contradict the Vienna agreement on arms reduction—everything is happening within that, on the part of both Russia and Hungary.

I would like to highlight separately the cultural agreement, the fact that Russia will hand back to Hungary those national works of art which ended up in Russia during the course of the war.

Last but not least, the joint stance adopted on the minority question is also of great significance, both for Hungary and for Russia. We think that in the future there is a possibility for us to jointly debate certain questions with Russia, with the Russian Government, and this offers us the possibility of cooperation in international organizations too, in the interests of aims that are equally useful for both countries.

Agreement on 'Major Issues'

LD1111140192 Budapest MTI in English 1159 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Budapest, November 11 (MTI)—Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall and Russian President Boris Yeltsin came to an agreement on all major issues featured on the agenda of their Wednesday [11 November] talks, Hungarian government spokesman Balazs Laszlo said.

They agreed on renouncing all claims concerning the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungary, the spokesman said.

Hungary agreed that, as a form of humanitarian aid, it would deliver USD 10 million worth of medicine to the Russian Army and Budapest would examine how it could—commensurate with its means—contribute to the construction of flats for Russian soldiers pulled out of Hungary.

The two parties agreed that both countries would conclude an agreement to settle Hungary's trade surplus of almost USD 1.6 billion, by the end of the year. The agreement would include details of the form and schedule of payments.

Mediatory Role Sought

LD1111122892 Budapest MTI in English 1042 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Budapest, November 11 (MTI)—Hungary seeks to mediate rather than become a buffer zone between Eastern and Western Europe, Hungarian President Arpad Goncz told Russian President Boris Yeltsin on Wednesday morning.

Yeltsin arrived in Hungary from London on Tuesday evening to meet the invitation of President Arpad Goncz and Prime Minister Jozsef Antall. The Russian president was greeted with military honours in front of the parliament building.

The starting point of talks between Yeltsin and Goncz was the latter's private visit to Moscow on October 20-22, the president's spokesman said. The fact that Russia is a great power, a factor of security in the region, and a business partner of Hungary lends special importance to Yeltsin's visit, Goncz said. Hungary has made, and will continue to make, every possible effort to be a mediator rather than a buffer zone between East and West, he said.

On this score, the Hungarian president termed it vital that Russia be integrated into Europe since no collective European security system is conceivable without the involvement of this great power. Hungary strives to conclude all bilateral agreements with Russia which it had elaborated with other countries. The agreements to be concluded on Wednesday mark the end of the past and lay new foundations for the development of relations, Goncz said. He added that some of the economic and cultural documents would be exemplary. Goncz laid special emphasis on the declaration to be signed with regard to the rights of national, ethnic, religious and language minorities.

Yeltsin said that what had been agreed on with Goncz in Moscow would now be implemented. He said even the preparations for these agreements were important. The Russian president announced that he had brought to Budapest some documents about the 1956 events and some Hungarian works of art taken away during and after the Second World War.

Hungary and Russia are partners, with a vested interest in making the utmost of the advantages of cooperation, Yeltsin said. The Russian president praised the agreement on national minorities and said he would welcome the two countries close cooperating in international forums for the protection of minorities. Yeltsin emphasized the need to elevate Hungarian-Russian relations to a higher level and to develop economic cooperation. In his view, the only obstacle to this was red tape.

Concerning the graves of soldiers and civilians in each other's countries, Yeltsin said there should be equal respect for the dead of both peoples and he would welcome an agreement on taking care of these graves and memorials.

Later, Yeltsin and his entourage held discussions with Prime Minister Jozsef Antall.

Russian Debt-Arms Purchase Deal

LD1111141192 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1300 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Excerpts] Hungary and Russia have mutually foregone their respective material claims relating to the withdrawal of Soviet troops. This was agreed by Jozsef Antall and Boris Yeltsin. [passage omitted] According to information obtained by our correspondent from Russian sources, the two sides have agreed that for part of the existing Russian debt we will purchase arms from Moscow valued at $800 million. Agreement about the fate of the other half of the debt will be concluded at a later stage.

Participation in Solving Caucasian Conflict

LD1111185292 Budapest MTI in English 1606 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Budapest, November 11 (MTI)—In proportion to its capabilities, under the CSCE mechanism, Hungary is ready to take part in settling the Caucasian conflict, by sending military observers to the region, the Hungarian foreign minister offered his Russian counterpart at talks on Wednesday. The two countries hold similar views on international problems, Geza Jeszenszky of Hungary and Andrey Kozyrev of Russia agreed.

Speaking about the South Slav crisis, Jeszenszky noted the dangers threatening ethnic Hungarians in Serbia's Vojvodina region, and recalled the aggressive, nationalist and anti-Hungarian attitudes of the present Serb leadership.

The sides agreed that the final settlement of the South Slav conflict requires launching an international crisis-preventing mechanism. Russia, a country of a minority population of 25 million, is also interested in setting up such a mechanism. The ministers agreed to hold regular consultations and to act jointly in international organizations on minority issues.

Jeszenszky asked for Russia's support at international forums to settle the Gabcikovo hydropower plant problem as soon as possible.

Speaking about conflicts that erupted in the Soviet Union's successor states, Jeszenszky offered Hungary's help within the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in settling the Caucasian conflict, possibly by sending military observers to the region.

Finally, Kozyrev invited Jeszenszky to Moscow.

Regular Consultations To Be Held

LD1111200392 Budapest MTI in English 1221 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Budapest, November 11 (MTI)—Developing Hungarian-Russian ties, by acting jointly in spheres such as minority problems, is in the interest of both sides, parliamentarians from the two countries stressed at talks on Wednesday.

First Deputy Chairman of the Russian Federation's Supreme Council Sergey Filatov and Hungarian Parliamentary Deputy Speaker Matyas Szuros both attached great significance to inter-parliament relations. Filatov is accompanying Russian President Boris Yeltsin on an official visit to Hungary. The two parliaments should establish regular working ties, Filatov said. He stressed the importance of exchanging information on legislation and of holding regular consultations between parliamentary committees, particularly on issues of security, ecology and economic restructuring.

The two sides agreed Hungary was at the head of democratic transformation in the region and was also the most stable country.

Results Reported

LD1111122192 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1100 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] [Announcer] Russian President Boris Yeltsin is having discussions in Budapest. Our staff member Istvan Kulcsar reports on his morning's program.

[Kulcsar] I am reporting from the parliament building, the scene of the Hungarian-Russian discussions. Both the Hungarian and Russian sides are satisfied with this morning's discussions and their results. An agreement was reached on the accounting claims following Soviet troop withdrawal. The two sides are mutually renouncing their claims in this connection.

Hungary is to offer humanitarian aid to Russia. It will deliver 10 million dollars worth of medicine for the Russian Army and will examine how, taking our country's load-bearing capacity into account, it could help construction in Russia for the troops that were withdrawn.

The other prepared agreements have also been completed, and with one exception, they will be signed this afternoon, including the Hungarian-Russian declaration on international cooperation to be exerted in the issue of national minorities, and the agreement about the return of art treasures taken away during the war, and other issues.

The only thing the negotiating sides could not agree about precisely was the repayment of the Russian trade debt of some 1.6 billion dollars, and they agreed that by the end of the year they will work out the method and the schedule of repayments.

As we learned from spokesman Balazs Laszlo, all this was discussed at this morning's plenary talks, where the Russian delegation was led by President Boris Yeltsin and the Hungarian delegation by Prime Minister Jozsef Antall.

At the beginning of the discussion the Hungarian head of government reminded his guest that at the time of last year's coup Hungary and its government supported Russian democracy and that even while the Soviet Union still existed Hungary concluded the first friendship treaty with Russia. In his reply, President Yeltsin appreciated this considerably and highlighted that the Hungarian prime minister at the time of last year's coup was the first to telephone him from abroad.

Prior to the plenary discussion, the two statesmen held a separate exchange of views in the company of a restricted circle of their advisors. Before that Boris Yeltsin held talks with Arpad Goncz—according to the words of spokesman Andras Farago—in a very good, relaxed tone. The Hungarian head of state noted that the present discussions represent on the one hand the closing of the past and on the other hand the laying of new foundations in Hungarian-Russian relations. The Russian head of state said that for his Budapest visit he has brought with him documents relating to 1956 and art treasures originating from Hungary. Among other things he stated that he would like the two countries to cooperate vigorously in international forums on the issue of protection of national minorities.

Goncz, Germany's Sussmuth Hold Talks

LD1111174592 Budapest MTI in English 1927 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Budapest, November 10 (MTI)—Hungarian President Arpad Goncz and German Bundestag President Rita Sussmuth today discussed questions relating to Hungary's domestic policy, the Eastern and Central European region and relations between Hungary and the European Community, president of the Republic's spokesman Andras Farago told MTI on Tuesday [10 November].

Goncz pointed out Germany's interest in a stable Eastern Europe.

Sussmuth remarked that Eastern Europe should stop seeing the Western half of the continent merely as donors. The region is coming to face more and more problems that it has to solve by itself, although Western Europeans also wish to help. She confirmed Germany's interest in a peaceful transition in Eastern Europe.

Following this, Sussmuth held talks with Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky on Eastern European problems, security policy questions, the South Slav crisis, possible solutions, and the rights of Eastern Europe's minorities.

After concluding their one-day visit here, the Bundestag president and her group left Budapest on Tuesday evening.

Antall Meets Bundestag President

LD1111173992 Budapest MTI in English 1917 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Budapest, November 10 (MTI)—PM [prime minister] Jozsef Antall met German Bundestag President Rita Sussmuth in Budapest on Tuesday afternoon.

Government spokesman Balazs Laszlo said that Antall had thanked the Bundestag for the plaque commemorating the passage of East German refugees through the Hungarian-Austrian border in 1989.

He recalled the initiating role Hungary's then opposition played with the pan-European Picnic on August 10, 1989. He said Hungary regards German unity as a crucial step towards the single Europe.

Sussmuth praised Hungary's efforts to properly shelter the large number of refugees staying in the country. They also discussed the regional situation, EC relations, and the Danube diversion.

Sussmuth said that a packed schedule prevented the Bundestag ratifying Hungary's EC association agreement until after Christmas.

Antall said Hungary was already seeking close political cooperation with the EC and, regarding full membership, it hoped to hear the related economic conditions as soon as possible.

On the Gabcikovo dam, Antall stressed Hungary was looking for a solution in cooperation with the EC and, if necessary, with the involvement of other international forums. He said it was not simply a local dispute between two countries. Arbitrary diversion of a border river in defiance of international laws and agreements could create a dangerous precedent for the whole of Europe.

Foreign Policy Statement Signed With Netherlands

LD1111200892 Budapest MTI in English 1255 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Budapest, November 11 (MTI)—Respecting democracy, freedom and human rights, Hungary and the Netherlands are to contribute to strengthening the new unified Europe, says a foreign policy statement signed by the two foreign ministers on Wednesday [11 November].

Geza Jeszenszky of Hungary and Hans van den Broek of the Netherlands signed the statement in the presence of Prime Ministers Jozsef Antall and Ruud Lubbers in the Hungarian parliament.

Under the statement, the foreign ministers will meet for political consultations at least once a year. Stressing the importance of regional cooperation in the process of European integration, the foreign ministers confirmed that talks between the Visegrad Group, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland, and the Benelux states would continue.

According to the statement, the foreign ministers attached great importance to the EC-Hungary association accords taking effect as soon as possible. The accords will help Hungary attain its goal of full EC membership.

Dutch Support in EC

LD1211032592 Budapest MTI in English 1746 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Budapest, November 11 (MTI)—Hungary highly appreciates the help it recieved from the Netherlands in working out the associaton agreement with the European Community, which it hopes can be ratified before January 1, President Arpad Goncz said during his talks with Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers in parliament today.

According to presidential spokesman Andras Farago, Goncz indicated Hungary's wish to become a full EC member as soon as possible, and sought the support of the Dutch Government to this end.

Lubbers and Goncz agreed that the road to a future Europe leads through the Europe of regions. The cooperation of Hungary, Poland and Czechoslovakia is conducive to the region's rapprochement to Europe, Lubbers said.

Goncz praised the development of bilateral economic links, and asked the Dutch Government to encourage entrepreneurs to increase their investments in Hungary. Lubbers said that to his knowledge Dutch businessmen have had positive experiences in Hungary.

On discussing international issues, Goncz paid special attention to the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros dam controversy, asking for the participation of Dutch experts. Lubbers made a promise to this effect.

Earlier, the Dutch prime minister, accompanied by Antall and Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky, briefly attended the debate over next year's budget bill.

Netherlands Ready To Help Resolve Gabcikovo Issue

LD1111225192 Budapest MTI in English 1529 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Budapest, November 11 (MTI)—Relations between Hungary and the Netherlands are friendly and problem-free, the two prime ministers said at a press conference after talks on Wednesday [11 November].

Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall said his Dutch counterpart Ruud Lubbers has from the start backed Hungary's efforts to integrate into Europe, and has always spoken within the European Community in support of Hungary.

Answering a question, Lubbers hoped the problem of the Gabcikovo hydropower plant would be resolved with EC help. He offered his country's technical support and expertise to Hungary and the EC.

Lubbers said it would be easier for Central Europe to build closer ties with the EC and for its countries to become EC members, if the Czech and the Slovak Republics, Hungary and Poland established a common market.

Asked by MTI what the Netherlands does to help Hungary attain full EC membership, Lubbers said his country was opening the market for Hungarian goods, was trying to increase the number of investments in Hungary, and was making use of the experience of Dutch business people working in Hungary. As to the financial sphere, he said, international support was needed. Also, he added, the Netherlands wanted to help Hungary in restructuring its economy.

Red Cross To Aid Former Yugoslav States

LD1211045892 Budapest MTI in English 1901 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Budapest, November 11 (MTI)—The Hungarian Red Cross is to provide humanitarian aid to Croatia, Bosnia-Hercegovina and Macedonia at the request of Hungary's Government. On the request of the Yugoslav presidential office, medicine and baby food consignments will also be sent to Serbia on humanitarian grounds, the Hungarian Foreign Ministry press department told MTI on Wednesday [11 November].

Suchocka Reports 'Amazing Understanding' With Kohl

LD0511234692 Warsaw PAP in English 1629 GMT 5 Nov 92

[By Wlodzimierz Korzycki and Jerzy Rasala]

[Text] Bonn, Nov. 5—Polish Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl engaged in over 2 hours of meetings first behind closed doors and later in the company of aides. Chancellor Kohl did not hide his satisfaction with the talks at a press conference while Prime Minister Suchocka stated that she reached an "amazing understanding" with the chancellor during their first-ever meeting.

Kohl said that Polish-German relations are of great importance on the road to a peaceful Europe and that the difficult past should not be forgotten, but one must also look ahead. "Our common goal is and should be the creation of neighborly relations as good as those between France and Germany," said Kohl adding that "past misunderstandings cannot divert us from our goals."

The chancellor stated that the Federal Republic of Germany will continue to support the Polish reform process. "We want a reformed Poland to find its place in the future European union, as is written in the Maastricht Treaty," said Kohl adding that the gate has been left "wide open" for Poland to enter.

Hanna Suchocka is convinced that much has changed for the better in both Poland and Germany where mutual relations between the two states are concerned. She thanked Kohl for his statement that the Federal Republic sees a place for Poland in the European Community.

Directly following the press conference Hanna Suchocka participated in a meeting with the German Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Ten Polish businessmen as well as 30 German industrialists, engaged in business with Poland or wishing to do so, also participated in the meeting.

Kohl: Relations 'Vital for Europe'

LD0511152992 Berlin DDP in German 1319 GMT 5 Nov 92

[Text] Bonn (DDP)—Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl acknowledged that relations between Germany and Poland are "vital for Europe." The end of the German and European division means that the two countries have grown close to each other again, Kohl told journalists in Bonn today after talks with the Polish Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka. The government is observing the Polish reform process "with the greatest sympathy" and will continue to support it. Bonn's aim is for Poland to become a member of the EC "in the foreseeable future." The government intends to help create the economic prerequisites for this, Kohl said.

Potential EC Membership Discussed

AU0611211192 Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 6 Nov 92 p 7

[Report by "C.G./K.B.": "Kohl Wants To Help Poland Into the EC"]

[Excerpt] Bonn, 5 November—Poland wants a 10-year period of adjustment before joining the EC. After a talk with Chancellor Kohl on 5 November, Polish Prime Minister Suchocka expressed "gratitude" that Germany agrees to that. She said that Kohl's "offer that Poland must achieve a status of adjustment" is important. Kohl said that he had arranged many things with Mrs. Suchocka that now have to be pursued further by the responsible ministers. In Germany, it is undisputed that Poland should find the way into the EC in the spirit of the Maastricht treaties: "The door must be wide open; when Poland will go through it will be decided by Warsaw." This also depends on the success of the reforms in Poland. "The EC and Germany want to help Poland establish economic preconditions for that." Kohl announced that at the European Council meeting in Edinburgh in December he will discuss with the EC partners not only the membership applications of Austria, Sweden, Finland, and, perhaps, Norway and Switzerland; a transition solution for other neighboring countries, which should become members, in the German view, as soon as their domestic situation permits, should be discussed. A transition solution for Poland, Hungary, and the successor states of the CSFR should make later membership easier. Those countries should "know that Germany wants them to become part of the EC."

Kohl also discussed the German minority in Poland with Mrs. Suchocka. With a view to the minority and to xenophobic incidents in Germany, Kohl said: "What we both do not want is that old distrust and new misunderstandings ruin the success of our work." On 5 November, Mrs. Suchocka attended a joint session of the foreign policy committees of the Bundestag, the French National Assembly, and the Polish Sejm in the old water works, the former plenary hall of the Bundestag. [passage omitted]

Suchocka, Kinkel Hold Talks on Cooperation

LD0611182892 Berlin DDP in German 1422 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Excerpts] Bonn (DDP)— Cross-border traffic between Germany and Poland is to become easier in the future. [passage omitted]

The Polish prime minister also met Federal Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel. Both countries have an outstanding joint interest in developing their mutual economic relations further, Kinkel stressed during the talks. "Not striving for dominance, but cooperation", was the objective, the minister emphasized. Kinkel also asked Suchocka for support in resolving all matters relating to

the German minority in Poland, on the basis of the German-Polish friendship agreement.

Suchocka underlined Poland's strong interest in a rapprochement with the EC. Accession would also be in the interest of Europe, she stated. Kinkel said the necessary process of adaptation needs to be started through association agreements in order to achieve this objective as soon as possible. He assured the Polish prime minister that Germany will ratify the association agreement with Poland at the beginning of 1993.

Poland 'Increasingly Attractive' to Investors

AU0611090092 Hamburg ARD Television Network in German 2130 GMT 5 Nov 92

[Interview with Polish Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka by Dierk-Ludwig Schaaf in Bonn on 5 November; Suchocka statements in Polish with superimposed German translation—recorded]

[Text] [Schaaf] Have you received any promises concerning investment in Poland?

[Suchocka] Yes, we discussed investment. I met with representatives of the Federation of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce, which was very interesting. I saw that German managers are interested in Poland. This was very important for me. Of course, there are still some problems, but Poland is becoming increasingly attractive to Western investors.

[Schaaf] Attacks on Polish citizens in Germany, xenophobia in Germany, and neo-Nazi activities even in Silesia are disturbing relations between the two countries considerably. What can the governments do about this?

[Suchocka] We also discussed this issue. Both governments believe that these are minor incidents. They should not take place. On behalf of Poland, I can only say that these problems are occurring to a lesser extent in Poland. The Polish Government reacted immediately and clearly. We expect the same reaction from the German Government, and we were promised this today.

[Schaaf] You want to sign two agreements on border cooperation tomorrow. Will they help to bring problems like illegal labor, car thefts, and other annoying criminal phenomena under control?

[Suchocka] Yes, these are the problems that we are facing. If we establish completely normal relations between our countries and if we want to build a community, we must fight against all these minor crimes, which are being committed day in day out, and bring them under control, as you put it.

Suchocka Signs Border Crossing Treaties

LD0611093192 Hamburg DPA in German 0825 GMT 6 Nov 92

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—Two treaties on frontier crossings and local cross-border traffic were signed in Bonn today at the end of the two-day visit by Polish Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka. They envisage setting up 13 new frontier crossings in stages in addition to the 24 existing ones on the German-Polish border. The first one near Kuestrin is to open by the end of this month, for pedestrians at first. Suchocka also met German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel. She intends to return home after a meeting with Poles living in Germany.

Suchocka Expresses Confidence in Poland's Economy

AU0611212092 Duesseldorf HANDELSBLATT in German 6 Nov 92 p 13

[Report by "sm": "Hanna Suchocka Speaks of New Confidence"]

[Excerpt] Bonn—Poland will be the first East European country to overcome the post-communist recession. Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka expects that. The year 1993 will be characterized by economic growth, she stated in a speech to German entrepreneurs of the Federation of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHT) in Bonn.

Poland has handled the consequences of the crisis that resulted from the collapse of trade with the former Soviet Union relatively well. The loss of the Eastern markets was quickly made up for, even if not always by the same enterprises. For the first time since September 1989, most enterprises expect a production increase, the prime minister stated. A decline in production costs and an increasing demand are to be noticed, which is a good sign for enterprises that want to carry out business in the Polish market.

Her government attaches great significance to foreign investments in Poland, the prime minister pointed out. Despite fears that are expressed occasionally, the understanding of the population and its support for this position increases.

An increasing number of people are becoming aware that foreign investments create new jobs, and lead to higher tax returns and an improvement of the economic situation.

In this connection, Suchocka referred to the steps by her government to facilitate access to the Polish market and to improve conditions for the exchange of trade with foreign countries. The reform of the banking system and of the financial institutions has been tackled. The technical infrastructure is being modernized. Poland strives for equal treatment of domestic and foreign capital.

Foreign investments are not only a gain for Poland, but also for the investors themselves, the prime minister stressed. Poland is the most important market in Central Europe in which the consumption of consumer goods is considerably lower than in Western Europe. This means that the current market for consumer goods will increase substantively if the living standard rises in Poland. "The enterprises that enter our market cannot only expect a sale of their goods at present, but they can also expect a considerable increase in their turnover in the future," Suchocka emphasized.

The rules that are now valid are conducive to foreign investments. Despite the fact that some believe the opposite, there are procedures in Poland that make it possible for the acquisition of land by foreign investors. If the purchase is linked with a specific industrial investment, approval by the Interior Ministry is a "mere formality," the prime minister stated. German companies are the strongest group among foreign investors in Poland. They account for 37 percent and invest primarily in the furniture, paper, light, and brewery industry.

Prime Minister Suchocka met with Chancellor Helmut Kohl in Bonn and with the chairmen of the Bundestag groups of the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union and Free Democratic Party of Germany. She attended a meeting of the foreign committee of the Polish and French parliament and of the Bundestag. [passage omitted]

Defense Minister Continues U.S. Tour

LD1111004392 Warsaw TVP Television First Program Network in Polish 2148 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] After talks with U.S. Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney, Defense Minister Janusz Onyszkiewicz said an American military mission will arrive in Poland within a month. Onyszkiewicz is the first post-war Polish defense head to pay an official visit to Washington. Poland is soliciting Pentagon support in its efforts to be admitted to NATO.

Washington is already preparing for tomorrow's Veterans' Day. Onyszkiewicz has laid flowers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington Cemetery. He is also going to take part tomorrow in ceremonies commemorating those who died in American wars. Of special importance are the celebrations of the 10th anniversary of the monument to those who died in the Vietnam war, where the reading of the names of all 58,185 Americans killed and missing in action in Vietnam has been going on since Sunday [8 November].

Tomorrow Minister Onyszkiewicz will hold talks in Congress and the National Security Council. He will also meet the editors of THE WASHINGTON POST. In the evening he will hand over decorations awarded to participants in the 1920 [Polish-Soviet] war. Until the end of the week the Polish defense minister will be visiting U.S. military bases and missile sites in western states. He will also visit the Navy base at Norfolk, Virginia. A meeting with expatriate Poles in Chicago is planned for Saturday.

Walesa Thanks Bush for Services to Nation, Europe

AU1011132292 Warsaw POLSKA ZBROJNA in Polish 6-8 Nov 92 p 2

[Letter from President Walesa to U.S. President Bush; place and date not given]

[Text] Polish President Lech Walesa has sent the following letter to U.S. President George Bush:

"Once again I would like to assure you of the enormous warm feelings that the Polish people and I have toward you. Ever since you were vice president you have furnished us with evidence of your sympathy and understanding for my country's history and for Polish problems and difficulties.

"We are profoundly grateful to you for supporting our struggle against a system that is now disappearing into history. We thank you for helping us during a difficult period of the Polish revolution when we ourselves were unable to speak with a loud voice. The American people and you personally were avid advocates of this revolution.

"The Berlin Wall collapsed with your help. The 'cold war' ended. You changed the shape of the world and Europe and shortened the road to its unification.

"In Polish hearts, you occupy as important a place as the one you occupy in history thanks to your politics. Sentiments are not attached to a person's office. They are attached to the person. Therefore you and Mrs. Barbara Bush will always be dear guests in Poland, a country that owes you so much. We thank you sincerely."

Politicians on U.S. Election Results

AU1011183792 Bucharest CURIERUL NATIONAL in Romanian 5 Nov 92 p 3

[Article by Ralu Filip: "Reactions to the U.S. Presidential Elections"]

[Text]

Nobody Is Glued to Power

Mr. I.V. Sandulescu, secretary of state at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs [first vice president of the National Liberal Party]:

The American people wanted Bill Clinton as their president and we must understand that this is the meaning of democracy. Nobody is glued to his seat in power. Whether things stay the same or change after the elections is up to his will, behavior, and how he plans to deal with the social needs and the electorate's wishes. I would like to believe that Mr. Clinton's ascent to the U.S. presidency will mean the continuation of relations with Romania, which have been evolving positively of late.

A Favorable Premise for Romania

Mr. Oliviu Gherman, president of the Democratic National Salvation Front [FDSN]:

I consider Mr. Bill Clinton's election as president of the United States as a basis for improving the perception the United States should have of Romania's image. We congratulate Mr. Clinton and we are anticipating a broad opening on his part and that of the United States toward Romania, while assuring him of our and the Romanians' opening toward him and the United States.

Clinton's Deputies Refused Us the Most-Favored-Nation Status

Mr. Corneliu Coposu, senator of the National Peasant Christian Democratic Party-PNTCD [PNTCD president]:

The result was only to be expected. Unfortunately, it was Clinton's deputies that refused to grant us the (most-favored-nation) status. Therefore, our efforts to change Romania's image must be intensified, so as to improve the chances that Congress will reverse this unwelcome action against our country.

I Was Impressed With Clinton

Mr. Petre Roman, president of the National Salvation Front [FSN]:

Bill Clinton's victory was predictable, in view of the fact that the Americans wanted a change. In a way, the manner in which this change has taken place in the United States should be a lesson for us. Realizing that the United States is the only superpower now, this change is of concern for the whole world. I have tried to have a better understanding of Bill Clinton's personality, and one of the aspects that impressed me most was his 20 July 1992 interview with TIME magazine. This interview impressed me through the clarity and seriousness of the answers given and through his emotional and resolute commitment. Likewise, there are some simple ideas there that can be of interest to us, too. Clinton said: "Americans love to hate politics, obviously in the United States, but at the same time they desperately want it to function." Therefore, a subject so common in countries where democratic politics are just at the start of the road is also topical in the world's oldest democracy. I find it interesting that, referring to the many accusations of corruption and particularly of abuses of power in U.S. politics, along with personal attacks, Clinton put it most beautifully: "What these men did was to pollute our political life. This is not only unfair, it is downright evil." I am thinking of similar situations in our political life. I also consider Clinton's message quite good: "There should not be large categories of citizens handicapped by the country's economic condition. There are solutions to remedy such situations." He also said: "A politician's highest responsibility is for his own people."

The Important Thing Is Romania's Image in the United States

Mr. Alexandru Popovici, vice president of the Civic Alliance Party [PAC]:

Of course, the election of a U.S. president is an important moment. This also applies to Mr. Bill Clinton's victory. Nevertheless, we should not forget that the United States has its own path to follow and that, from the viewpoint of Romania's interests, it is less important to us who the president is. Let us not forget that, despite the administration's recommendations, Congress refused to grant us most-favored-nation status. Therefore, right now, the important thing for Romania in its relations with the United States and particularly with Europe is to create its own image, which should be as positive as possible. As far as PAC is concerned, it will do all it can to project such an image abroad. Our political interest coincides with national interests and with the goal of embarking upon the road to prosperity and democracy. We are aware of the fact that poverty is polarizing the options toward the extremists, rather than the rational parties. We would like Romania's image to contribute fully to relaunching our ties with the United States.

God Bless America and Romania

Mr. Ioan Gavra, the Romanian National Unity Party [PUNR], deputy speaker of the Assembly of Deputies:

Actually, at a PUNR news conference two months ago, I said that Bush was a political corpse. I predicted then a resounding defeat at the November presidential elections. That practically amounted to the downfall of the militarist style and "commando" tone in foreign policy and international life. My prognosis was proven right. Lingering on with a certain political line is a lamentable thing for someone who does not understand the meaning

of change and opening. Clinton categorically pushed around the former U.S. President, which was only to be expected since the latter's domestic policy has obviously deviated from the true spirit of U.S. democracy.

Bill Clinton represents the change and the promise of the sixties, which were tragically ended with the assassination of former President Kennedy. The Americans did not forget that historical interval and have returned to the reality and hope of those years. The United States is reborn and the spirit of those years is making a triumphant comeback in the White House, thanks to Bill Clinton's charm and political intuition. So does our hope in a total opening of the Romanian-U.S. relations.

Let us hope that Romania's image in the United States will change completely and that the opening will be sincere, real, and unconditional. Romania is entitled to put its hope in its democratic chance. God bless America and Romania!

The United States Will Open Toward Us

Mr. Sergiu Cunescu, president of the Romanian Social Democratic Party [PSDR]:

I hope that the American people's choice will produce an opening toward broader social democracy, which would also accord with our party's concerns. At the same time, I feel sorry for President Bush, who was a great political personality. I am convinced that, regardless of which one of the candidates had won the elections, the opening toward Romania would have come anyway.

I Would Have Preferred Bush

Mr. Ion Ratiu of the PNTCD, deputy speaker of the Assembly of Deputies:

I would have preferred Mr. Bush to have been reelected, because he proved firmness in his foreign policy and because I believe that the U.S. prestige increased considerably during his administration—but that is politics. I believe the American people opted for a change mainly on economic and domestic policy considerations. This is probably a good choice, because in the conditions of the current world economic recession, the Democrats' program is traditionally geared to better solutions to the economic crisis problems. Therefore, I believe that they may resort to an interventionist policy, based on Keynesian economic theory, rather than the economic policy of the Reagan-Bush administrations. We will witness strong state intervention in the economy. I believe that the U.S. policy of helping the new democracies in East Europe will continue. In this respect, I maintain that the relations between Romania and the United States will stay good and will even improve.

Mr. Liviu Moraru of the National Liberal Party-Young Wing [PNL-AT]:

We hope that the election result will mark a definite change in the U.S. attitude toward Romania, in particular, and the transition process taking place in the east, in general.

The Bush Administration Did Not Understand Our Realities

Mr. Florin Velicu, senator of the Agrarian Democratic Party of Romania [PDAR]:

I consider Bill Clinton's victory as a victory for the need for a change in U.S. policy in the world and of understanding this need. I believe the majority of the Romanian people rejoice in this victory, because, after the December 1989 events, the Bush Administration did not understand Romanian realities and phenomena and failed to support us at all, something that is quite incomprehensible, given our empathy toward the American people. Clinton's victory is the victory of the younger generation. As far as I am concerned, the situation there is similar to that in our country, namely, it is necessary to build a new political class both there and here. If Bill Clinton adopts the same attitude toward us as George Bush did, this will be a great disappointment for Romania.

They Voted for Change

Mr. Gheorghe Pele, secretary in charge of foreign relations of the Socialist Party of Labor [PSM]:

The majority of the U.S. electorate has voted for change, which proves that they are in line with the wish of many nations in the world, which are striving for a more efficient and better world. We hope that Mr. Clinton's election will lead to a positive change in Romanian-U.S. relations, to the benefit of both nations. We believe that Romania is historically entitled to be appreciated by the U.S. rulers for its true value and that it deserves to be better understood by the Americans.

Clinton Represents the Americans' Will for Change

Mr. Attila Verestoy, [senator] of the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania [UDMR]:

Clinton's election represents the Americans' will for change. The administration they had, a president who had experienced many events and who has also had a certain amount of success, well, it seems that each of his successes was torn apart by other events, which made it impossible to present his successes—such as the dismemberment of the USSR or the victory in the Gulf—as something definite. Clinton represents the Americans' desire to focus on themselves and pay more attention to each citizen's daily life. The Americans have their own house to put in order and wanted a president who pays more attention to these matters.

The Price of Conceit

Mr. Ioan Manzatu, president of the Republican Party [PR]:

In any genuine democracy, when one becomes complacent about matters pertaining to a country's economic, social, and political life, then the electorate turns unhesitatingly toward other renewing alternatives. This has happened now in the United States, after almost two mandates of Republican rule. Almost three years have passed since President Bush and his team began to display a barely concealed air of conceit. I also include here the political gaffes vis-a-vis certain states in the Middle East and Europe. The Democratic Party and its representative, Bill Clinton, won the elections by carefully examining the mistakes of the Republican Administration and taking note of the American electorate's desire for renewal.

I Hope It Will Be Good for Us

Mr. Crin Halaicu, mayor of Bucharest:

I think that what matters now is Clinton's future perception of Romania. If the Bush administration recently began to have a new opinion about us at the top, we must definitely start afresh and strive even more to make an impression. I congratulate Clinton on this victory, which was only to be expected, and I hope that his election will be beneficial for Romania in all respects.

Foreign Minister Discusses Current Polish Ties

AU1111125692 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1122 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 11/11/1992—"The pulse of Romanian-Polish relations is very weak and I dare say it is not through our fault" says Romanian Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase in an interview granted to daily CURIERUL NATIONAL.

"As far as I am concerned—he adds—the Polish 'mystery' is so much more impenetrable as their attitude towards Romania, which can be characterized as reserved at the very least, is in total contradiction with the existence of many factors, objective and subjective, whose combination should rather have encouraged development of the long-standing tradition of dialogue and cooperation between Romania and Poland in the context of the post-Cold War period."

The head of the Romanian diplomatic corps points out that "the greater part of the historical premises plead for a good relationship, even a friendly one," giving the example of World War I (when the two countries were allies), the period that followed it (when Romania was one of the first countries to hail the rebirth of the Polish State, establishing diplomatic relations and concluding after a short while an alliance treaty), the assistance Romania gave Poland at the beginning of World War II and Romania's attitude regarding the tragedy of the neighboring people in 1939 and over the years that followed, "an attitude which cannot easily be matched in that epoch."

"In the current context—Mr. Nastase opines—the economic similitudes that, willingly or not, we all inherited from our 'brotherly' past, as well as the common security interests make it imperious that we relaunch the Romanian-Polish relations. Despite this necessity the Polish mass media has created an extremely distorted image of our country. An example is the entirely false coverage of the Romanian September 27 elections by newspaper ZYCIE WARSZAWY."

Stolojan Cabinet Holds Last Weekly Meeting

AU1111124792 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1206 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 11/11/1992—Wednesday, November 11 at the Victoria Palace [government headquarters], the weekly and probably last meeting of the Stolojan government took place.

Mr. Theodor Stolojan, who announced that next week he would go on holiday, designated Dan Mircea Popescu, Minister of Labor and Social Protection, as caretaker for the government until the new government is put in place.

Referring to a series of current aspects of the social-economic activity, Premier Stolojan informed that so far 2 million hectares were under wheat and rye—that is 77 percent of the provisions—and that the surface exceeded by one million hectares that of the same period of 1991. According to the estimates the surfaces to be sown this fall will amount to more than 2.1 million hectares.

As to the reserves of fuel oil for the winter, they have reached 50 percent of the necessary—according to the data supplied by the industry ministry—and efforts are being made to complete them. Another item on the agenda was the report read by Economy and Finance Minister George Danielescu on the stage of the SAL agreement between Romania and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development [IBRD]. Minister Danielescu assessed that all important requirements had been met, except the one regarding financial discipline of the economic units. Mr. Danielescu went on to say that the latter shortcoming could lead to failure to get the second installment of the SAL loan, and that the future government would have that as one of its tasks.

New Prime Minister-Designate Outlines Objectives

AU1211103592 Bucharest ADEVARUL in Romanian 6 Nov 92 pp 1, 3

[Statement by Prime Minister-designate Nicolae Vacaroiu to Corneliu Carlan on 5 November; place not given: "A Man Who Believes in a... Four-Year Term Government"]

[Text] Yesterday, 5 November, Mr. Nicolae Vacaroiu, prime minister-designate made the following exclusive statement to our correspondent Corneliu Carlan:

It was not easy for me to accept this position; on the contrary, there were numerous question marks. I needed a long time to think it over because, I want to repeat, we are experiencing a difficult time and we have to fully commit ourselves to overcome it. As can be noted in all countries, building a market economy generally requires a certain transition period; there are certain difficulties, particularly social ones, for which—when the critical point has been reached—we have to seek solutions to alleviate them. And that is a problem. Such a thing can be achieved only by placing particular stress on economic and technological restructuring, something that presupposes privatization. I am an advocate of reform and strengthening democratic processes. I have said so before the continuation of the reform process does not mean the automatic application of a pre-established strategy, but a periodical examination of the phenomena that emerge and it means intervention to perform certain corrections. Nothing is perfect, everything can be perfected. This is why I favor examining things and open discussions with politicians, the parliament, and trade unions to seek the best possible formula of alternatives to overcome this period.

Certainly, my imminent concern will be the coming winter. I have already talked with Prime Minister Stolojan about the measures he has taken to guarantee energy, heating, and basic products such as bread and milk. If the government team I am going to propose will be endorsed by parliament, we will start off from the measures taken at this point and continue with new measures and solutions to alleviate difficulties and cope with the winter. Certainly, the immediate concern is 1993, particularly problems linked to the 1993 budget, the foreseeable development of prices, inflation, and exchange rate issues in general.

I will try to strengthen the dialogue with the people who are able to make their contribution in this direction. The essential objective at this time is drawing up this report, thus setting up the government team with a new government structure. I am thinking of the need to perfect the current government structure by bearing in mind that this time around we will not function for limited periods of time and on the basis of improvisations. We want to form a government to function for four years, regardless of whether one person or another will be changed within this government. Thus we need to do a lot of thinking, and we have to choose the best alternative for the period Romania is currently experiencing. This will require intensive work with teams of specialists probably led by new ministers. We may probably have two or three positions of ministers of state to directly coordinate things and to take responsibility for directly outlining certain complex sectors such as those connected with the reform, economic restructuring, and social protection. Thus this government team will start working together with all those who want to lend their hand to work out a strategy for the coming four year period. like all countries, we have to have in mind clear objectives. Recently, I listened to an interesting broadcast from the United States on the strategies it has proposed for the coming period to curb unemployment, inflation, and ensure economic growth. We have to think of such a strategy; we have to establish our objectives and submit a complete program to parliament in this respect.

Undoubtedly, the main objective is to ensure monetary stability. First we have to seek solutions to stabilizing the exchange rates based on the concept of the market economy. I do not want to conceal the fact that I am also thinking of strengthening the control over the management of state assets. This does not mean that we will stop privatization, on the contrary. But as long as the state is the owner, there has to exist an effective control of the way state property is managed and we also have to consciously prepare this state property for privatization under concrete and normal conditions by using various known methods. We have to stop such things as robberies, tax evasion, and the demolition of state property. It would appear that this big privatization process intends to start off and take over a clear management of the state property. On the contrary, what we want to do is prepare these companies to be privatized. This does not mean to dismantle them. It is easy to dismantle, but, as you know, it is very difficult to build and to restore.

Party Leaders Comment on Meeting With Vacaroiu

AU1111092292 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1921 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 10/11/1992—Tuesday, November 10, premier designate Nicolae Vacaroiu started talks on economic and social problems with the political leaders represented to Parliament, who stated to the press, among other things:

Corneliu Coposu, president of the Christian and Democratic National Peasant Party (PNTCD): I assured Mr. Nicolae Vacaroiu that PNTCD will give its vote of investiture to a politically homogeneous government made up of Democratic National Salvation Front [FDSN] members even if the cabinet were to include technocrats. In such conditions our party will contribute, through a constructive position, to taking all measures indispensable for breaking the deadlock the country is facing.

Dinu Patriciu, member of the Steering Committee of the National Liberal Party-Young Wing [PNL-AT]: We have backed the idea that the new government should be given political guarantees by the Democratic National Salvation Front since its governing programme must comply with that party's electoral programme. We will not support a government oriented toward centralism and dirigisme in the economy.

Nicolae Manolescu, Civic Alliance Party [PAC] leader: We have tried to find out whether the future government is to be a political one, to include FDSN members as we requested, or one made up of experts. We shall support

the government if it is to be a political one because we want the party, which got most of the votes to assume responsibility for ruling.

Geza Domokos, leader of the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania (UDMR): As regards interethnic relations, Mr. Vacaroiu assured us that this aspect of democracy, of social life would not be forgotten by the future executive. We welcome his wish for dialogue and openness, and we may say we are satisfied, by and large, with this information all the more so as we have been assured that the future government will be formed of FDSN members.

Petre Roman, National Salvation Front [FSN] leader: I have been rather pleasantly impressed by the seriousness with which he (Mr. Vacaroiu) approaches questions related specifically to the country's ruling. Though on a political plane the government Mr. Vacaroiu is to head will be a FDSN one we, as responsible people that bore the burden and attributes of a government, are determined to back him for everything that means a smooth run of the country's affairs and of the reform.

Vacaroiu's Comments on Meeting With Party Leaders

AU1111092692 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 2000 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Statement by Romanian Prime Minister-Designate Nicolae Vacaroiu at Government headquarters in Bucharest on 10 November—recorded]

[Text] I have met today with representatives of all political parties that are represented in Parliament. I have invited them myself and it was a great pleasure for me to see that they have all responded to my invitation. We had a free dialogue and a free exchange of ideas in keeping with what I have already stated, namely that I want total clarity concerning what my cabinet intends to do in the future, if—of course—that cabinet is validated by parliament.

A great number of very interesting ideas have been presented by all participants in that dialogue. I hope that our talks have not been assessed negatively by anyone. As for myself, it helped me to accumulate a number of new ideas. We hope that such meetings will continue to be helpful, considering the current difficulties our country is facing, especially now that winter is coming.

I can tell you that we have reached the final stage in the elaboration of the governmental program that we are going to present in parliament on 13 November. We have also reached a similar stage in the selection of the members of our cabinet, who are also going to be introduced to parliament together with the government's program.

UDMR Condemns Iliescu's 'Slanderous Attack'

AU1111093192 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 2000 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] A communique sent to us by the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania [UDMR] says that the UDMR Presidium met yesterday in Bucharest. Attending the meeting were: Laszlo Tokes, UDMR honorary chairman, Geza Domokos, the president of the UDMR, Jozsef Csapo, Gyorgy Tokay, Tibor Beder, Imre Borbely, Csaba Takacs, Miklos Patrubany, and Tibor [name indistinct], who are members of the UDMR Presidium, along with Attila Verestoy, the leader of the UDMR group in Romania's Senate, and Jozsef Somai, UDMR secretary.

The communique mentions that the presidium has discussed the schedule according to which preparations are to be made for the third national convention of the UDMR [to be held in 1993].

The presidium was also briefed on the [Romanian] press reaction to the [25 October] declaration issued by the UDMR [National Council of Delegates] in Cluj-Napoca. Concerning that issue, the presidium decided that information material should be released to brief Romanian and Hungarian public opinion in our country on the concept of community autonomy used in the Cluj Declaration.

The UDMR Presidium strongly protests President Ion Iliescu's speech made at his investiture to the supreme office, in which, quote, the head of the state—falsely interpreting the UDMR's political ideas related to community autonomy—has launched a slanderous attack against our union. The UDMR Presidium wishes to express its opinion that the president of the country, by the very nature of his office, should place himself above all political parties and beyond relations among political parties. The head of the state is the president of all citizens of the country, he is the guarantor of democracy and the state of law, and therefore he cannot afford to adopt discriminating and slanderous positions with respect to anyone, unquote.

The next meeting of the UDMR Presidium is to take place on 20 November in Cluj-Napoca.

PR Leader Outlines Goals of Centrist Movement

AU1211142292 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 10 Nov 92 p 1

[Interview with Republican Party leader Ioan Manzatu by Liana Ionescu; place and date not given: "A New Opposition?"]

[Text] [Ionescu] Through the new movement initiated by the Republican Party [PR], which you call the "centrist" movement, do you intend to create a new opposition?

[Manzatu] No. It is a group of formations, which at this time, want to fill the gap that exists in the centrist

political arena. This movement involves the center-rightist (liberal), the center-centrist (ecologist), and the center-leftist (social-democratic, without the Convention) political parties. This movement is a constituent part of the opposition, namely the one with a liberal or social-liberal leaning that does not yet exist as an active group. Everything depends on whether the liberals will also act in this direction.

[Ionescu] Have you asked them?

[Manzatu] We have contacted the National Liberal Party, the New Liberal Party, the Romanian Ecologist Movement, the Romanian Humanist Party, and the Romanian National Party which includes heroes of our nation.

[Ionescu] What are the objectives of this movement?

[Manzatu] The social-liberal or neoliberal movement has been set up to cope with the current situation in which we are promoting liberalism; however, we also have to think of those strata that are at a disadvantage for which the intervention of the state is important. As far as we are concerned, we cannot believe that social-democracy would be a solution at this time because it presupposes the existence of genuine employers and a great number of employees. Pure liberalism is no solution either, because all of a sudden it would cause too big convulsions. What we need is a transition doctrine to substantiate a sufficiently rapid transition to a large-scale privatization process, while gradually reducing the role of the state. If these objectives may not be achieved through the organization of the centrist movement, the only immediate solution is to create a very strong opposition by expanding the Democratic convention.

Tokes on Autonomy, Domokos' Role as UDMR Chairman

AU1111125292 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1126 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES 11/11/1992—"The radicals (in the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania—UDMR) would creatively want to help in the creation of new political situations. I feel like a radical myself in this sense" said TINERETUL LIBER Bishop Laszlo Tokes, one of the heads of the Reformed Church in Romania and UDMR honorary chairman. Referring to the two currents manifest in the UDMR, Laszlo Tokes labeled them as follows: "The radicals' policy is more creative, while the moderates remain more or less within the confines of acclimation to and conformism with the political reality."

Asked about his view on the Cluj-Napoca UDMR statement of October 25, he said the document "used the terms self-administration and community autonomy precisely in order to avoid wrong interpretations that might associate our purposes with irredentism or interpret self-determination as secessionist." Laszlo Tokes stated that "the Hungarians in Romania, as political and legal subjects, want to decide on their fate.

"In the matter of tuition in Hungarian, we do not approve of the idea of a unitary policy of education in Romania.... We want to decide by ourselves our education policy," Laszlo Tokes said. He also declared that "we have the right to organize our education in the interests of the children of Hungarian community in Romania."

Laszlo Tokes cautioned in his interview about "the perfect unity" inside the UDMR, about the idea of "community autonomy" in the Cluj-Napoca UDMR statement. "This is a sign that should be heeded," the UDMR leader said. About his role in the UDMR, Tokes said that the managed to play "a rather big role in balancing various opinions."

Also, he told the lie to the news item circulated by daily ROMANIA LIBERA in its November 10 issue about the envisaged removal of the UDMR chairman Geza Domokos from his current office, showing that he was given a no-confidence vote by the UDMR Presidium with a "categoric" 8-1 vote, but that it was only the UDMR Congress that it was entitled to dismiss him.

His forecast for the near future is that "either a part of the UDMR Presidium will resign or Mr. Domokos will quit."

Domokos' No-Confidence Vote Denied

AU1211094392 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1533 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPERS 11/11/1992—Geza Domokos is to keep his office as president of the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania (UDMR) until the union's congress convenes.

The information comes from well-informed UDMR sources who, in a talk with a ROMPRES editor denied that the UDMR Presidium had given a no-confidence vote to Mr. Domokos. His demotion falls under the competence of the congress, to be summoned for February next year, the source said, while opinions or criticism against Geza Domokos cannot be considered a vote of non-confidence.

After the declaration of Cluj Napoca issued by the UDMR declaration seen as a triumph of the radical wing of the Union, the rumor spread that Geza Domokos, standing for a moderate trend in the Union, had suffered a defeat that would cost him the replacement from his position of president of the UDMR.

Warring Factions Agree to Unconditional Ceasefire

AU1011162992 Paris AFP in English 1522 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Sarajevo, Nov 10 (AFP)—The three warring factions in Bosnia-Hercegovina signed an unconditional ceasefire Tuesday [10 November] to come into effect as of midnight Wednesday, the U.N. peacekeeping force announced here.

The chief of staff of the U.N. Protection Force, Brigadier Rody Cordy-Simpson, said the agreement was signed after four hours of talks at Sarajevo airport between military representatives of the former Yugoslav republic's Moslem, Serbian and Croatian forces.

The truce is due to come into effect "throughout Bosnia-Hercegovina as from November 12," he said.

Numerous earlier ceasefires have quickly collapsed since the ethnic war broke out after Bosnia-Hercegovina declared its independence early this year.

The latest truce announcement came as thousands of residents began a risky attempt to flee the embattled Bosnian capital without a U.N. escort before winter sets in.

It also coincided with a sharp escalation of fighting in southern Bosnia between Croatian and Serbian forces.

The Bosnian Serbs' local press agency, SRNA, reported that the ceasefire and a call for immediate negotiations were put forward by Serbian leaders.

"We are ready to stop the hostilities as soon as possible and immediately begin political negotiations," SRNA said, quoting a communique issued by the "Supreme Command of the Serbian Republic Army."

The Serbian offer came a day after the main Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, put forward a seven-point peace plan which notably called for freezing current front lines.

Since the war broke out, Serbs who made up about 30 percent of the population in Bosnia have seized control of more than 60 percent of the territory, which their militants want to merge with Serbia and Serb-controlled land in neighboring Croatia to former a Greater Serbia.

Cease-Fire Goes Into Effect

LD1111075892 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0730 GMT 12 Nov 92

[Text] Sarajevo, Nov 12 (TANJUG)—A cease-fire, signed in Sarajevo on Tuesday [10 November] by the military commanders of the local Moslem, Serb and Croat sides to the conflict in Bosnia-Hercegovina, took effect at 00:01 hrs on Thursday, November 12.

News agencies report from Sarajevo that the ceasefire received a cautious welcome from the commander of the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Bosnia-Hercegovina, French General Philippe Morillon, who sounded an unwontedly optimistic note in his statement to REUTERS.

"It is the first time the military commanders have taken responsibility for a cease-fire," Gen. Morillon told REUTERS.

The war in the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina flared up seven months ago after the European Community's recognition of Bosnia-Hercegovina as an independent state, pitting the local Moslems, Serbs and Croats against each other over how their state should be organized.

Cease-Fire 'Largely Observed'

LD1211112792 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1035 GMT 12 Nov 92

[Text] Sarajevo, 12 Nov (TANJUG)—The cease-fire agreed upon by all three warring sides in the former republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina and UN Protection Force representatives is being largely observed, Serb military sources here report.

Last night, however, Muslim forces from Mojmilo Brdo and Dobrinja Three were in action, Serb sources claim.

General Milan Gvero, who signed the agreement on behalf of the Serb side, said: "We certainly will not breach the agreement, but we want the other two sides, the Muslims and the Croats, to observe it, too."

No clashes have been recorded on the Sarajevo battleground throughout this morning.

Karadzic Comments on Cease-Fire

AU1111191292 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Telephone interview with Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic by Milada Cicovic in Geneva on 11 November—recorded]

[Text] [Cicovic] Mr. Karadzic, the Croatian aggression against Hercegovina, that is, the Serbian Republic [of Bosnia-Hercegovina], is continuing. You are in Geneva. Are the cochairmen of the Geneva conference aware of the developments in the Serbian Republic?

[Karadzic] I met with Cyrus Vance [Conference on Yugoslavia cochairman] yesterday and told him about the events in Hercegovina. The aggression shows that it is no longer a question of inter-ethnic conflict between the Bosnian Croats and Serbs but aggression by the Republic of Croatia against eastern Hercegovina, where not even one percent of the population is Croat. They have put tremendous pressure along the entire front line, but during the last few days they have concentrated their assaults on Nevesinje. Nevesinje is in great danger, so we urgently appeal to all Hercegovina people all over Yugoslavia to come to the aid of Nevesinje.

[Cicovic] Is there pressure exerted by the Islamic countries on the United Nations, since the Security Council is to meet on 13 November to adopt a new resolution on Bosnia-Hercegovina?

[Karadzic] There most certainly is pressure. They count on us to use the Air Force and all other means of defense,

and thus give the impression that the war in Bosnia-Hercegovina is flaring up. The Serbs would again, of course, be considered the culprits. If the arms embargo cannot be lifted, they at least want some other type of pressure put on the Serbian side.

[Cicovic] Weapons are arriving in Bosnia for both the Croats and the Muslims, despite the embargo. Yesterday a truce was signed by all three factions, even though the Croatian side was not present. [Bosnia-Hercegovina President] Alija Izetbegovic claims that this is ridiculous and that they have no intention of ceasing hostilities.

[Karadzic] This statement by Izetbegovic [word indistinct] both him and his commander, Mr. Siber, who was present, although he is a Croat. He signed the truce on the behalf of the Muslim side. The important thing is, the world has to understand, that Izetbegovic is not only the initiator but also the perpetuator of the war in Bosnia-Hercegovina. The Serbs can only act in accordance with the signatures they have given. If others do not, then we will conduct a complete mobilization of all forces in Bosnia-Hercegovina and call on all Serbs from Bosnia-Hercegovina who live in Serbia and Montenegro to swiftly join their units. We will defend our borders and our people.

Evacuation of Sarajevo Residents Under Way

AU1011134192 Paris AFP in English 1305 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Report by Patrick Rahir]

[Text] Sarajevo, Nov 10 (AFP)—The Bosnian Red Cross on Tuesday [10 November] started the mass evacuation of up to 6,000 Sarajevo residents trying to escape the war-torn capital—and possible death— before winter sets in. More than 2,300 residents from all ethnic groups were scheduled to leave Tuesday on the first of a three-day operation that has already been postponed three times.

A column of 29 cars, two trucks and 14 buses crammed with refugees started heading out of the city at 1 p.m., four hours behind the Red Cross schedule.

Under a special provision, a second convoy bound for Belgrade and carrying 1,000 mostly Serbian residents, would not be allowed to take off until the first convoy—headed to the Croatian port city of Split—had safely passed through the Serbian-controlled zone surrounding the city.

The evacuation is the largest operation of its kind since Serbs began laying siege to the city last April. Thousands of others fled by plane, car and bus in the first days of the war.

Buses heading into Sarajevo from the Croatian village of Kiseljak were stopped at the city's front lines, Red Cross volunteers said.

The residents heading to Belgrade will crowd into five articulated buses—500 to a bus—that will take then to the Serbian village of Lukavica, where they will transfer on to 20 other buses, said Stanic Sinica, a Bosnian Red Cross volunteers.

The United Nations Protection Force in Yugoslavia (UNPROFOR) and the Office for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) have refused to help out with the plan, insisting their mandate is to help Sarajevo survive and not to empty it of residents.

Geneva-based humanitarian groups expressed concern Tuesday, saying they had not been informed of the operation.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which is not in Sarajevo, said it did not understand why U.N. and other Red Cross federations had not been contacted, according to a spokesman. He said the ICRC had "no idea what the organizers will do with the 6,000 people once they arrive in Split and Belgrade."

The last evacuation attempt broke down Friday when the Bosnian Army prevented men between 18 and 60 from leaving the city unless they had a special military dispensation declaring them medically unfit.

Pava Baricic, the Bosnian Red Cross official in charge of the evacuation, said that all the men on the list of those scheduled to leave this week had obtained this special certificate, and that only "a small number" had had to give up their attempt to leave.

It is the first time Sarajevo authorities have authorized any such exodus. Until now, only a few hundred women and children wre allowed to leave on convoys organized by a local humanitarian group, the Children's Embassy.

Milica Misimovic, 38, has tried for three months to leave the capital with her three-year-old son and 18-month-old daughter. She was refused a place on earlier convoys as residents scrambled to escape the shelling that has killed thousands and the shortages of food, water and electricity that has turned life into a nightmare.

Misimovic is an ethnic Serb, her husband—who is staying behind in Sarajevo—is Croatian. She will travel to Croatia to stay with her family, but insisted that she "will come back when this is all over".

She will drive her own Volkswagen car—in perfect shape after remaining holed up in a garage during seven months of war. She said her husband had to petition the Bosnian Defense Ministry for days to get permission to let the car out of the country, and had to scour the black markets to get enough gasoline to make the trip.

In all, 11,236 people have been killed in Sarajevo and 44,677 wounded since war broke out on April 5, according to official medical figures.

UNPROFOR spokesman in Sarajevo, Adnan Abdelrazek, on Monday suggested the evacuation of some 2,000 Serbs from the city was akin to "ethnic cleansing", since the Serb forces besieging the city had insisted on their departure.

Representatives from the Serbian and Croatian forces and the Moslem-dominated Bosnian army were to meet again Tuesday at the airport, as UNPROFOR has been pushing for an accord to open corridors for UNHCR aid convoys.

Convoy Cleared for Sarajevo

LD1111232292 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1740 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Excerpt] Zvornik, 11 Nov (TANJUG)—After nearly 24 hours spent on a bridge on the Drina river, a convoy with about 50 UN Protection Force [UNPROFOR] vehicles left the Serb municipality of Zvornik for Sarajevo this morning.

The convoy continued its journey only after the Zvornik garrison received clearance from the high command of the army of the Serb Republic [in Bosnia-Hercegovina].

The column of UNPROFOR vehicles was stopped yesterday because the Serb side was not allowed to search truckloads sent to Sarajevo from Belgrade, a TANJUG correspondent learned from Serb military sources in Zvornik.

Two days earlier, on Sunday, Serb military authorities established in the course of a routine search that a UNPROFOR convoy with about 30 vehicles did not have correct arms and equipment documents. [passage omitted]

Evacuation Continues

LD1111232192 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1820 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Sarajevo, 11 November (TANJUG)—Another 400 people arrived from the Muslim part of Sarajevo in Lukavica today.

Most of the passengers in the Belgrade-bound humanitarian convoy whom the Muslim authorities allowed to leave the town had to stay overnight at the railway and bus station.

However, some 400 people managed to reach Lukavica aboard an articulated bus this afternoon.

According to Serbian radio, a bus driver was wounded, so it is uncertain whether the evacuation of the most endangered inhabitants of Sarajevo will continue. All refugees who arrived in Lukavica should reach Pale this evening.

Safety of Slovenes Guaranteed

LD1111002992 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1916 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, 10 November (TANJUG)—General Ratko Mladic, commander of the Army of the Serb Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, informed the Government of the Republic of Slovenia today that the Serb forces will guarantee safety to Slovene citizens who wish to leave Sarajevo.

In a letter, which was faxed to TANJUG in Belgrade, General Mladic requested that an appointed Slovene representative for evacuation should contact the command of the Serb forces in Lukavica.

Slovenia asked the Serb forces on 5 November to offer guarantees for the safe passage of 210 Slovene citizens from Sarajevo through the Serb territories.

The letter precisely sets out an itinerary which the convoy should take from Sarajevo through the Serb territory and further on to Belgrade and Subotica. The Slovene Government asked for the army escort to secure the evacuation.

Convoy Halted Earlier

AU1011214392 Paris AFP in English 2124 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Sarajevo, Nov 10 (AFP)—Serb forces on Tuesday [10 November] detained some 1,300 Moslems trying to leave the besieged Bosnia-Hercegovina capital Sarajevo, the press office of the Bosnian Army said here.

In reprisal, the commander-in-chief of the Bosnian Army, Sefer Halilovic ordered the cancellation of the rest of the operation which would have allowed 6,000 people, including Serbs, to leave Sarajevo, the Army said.

The report could not be independently confirmed.

According to the Bosnian military, the Serbs forced all Moslems—some 1,300 men, women and children—to leave the vehicles in which they were travelling.

Croats in the convoy were allowed to continue their route out of Serbian-held territory, the sources said.

After the Serbian action, the Bosnian authorities halted a second convoy which had been due to leave Sarajevo for Belgrade and Halilovic ordered a stop to the entire evacuation operation, which had been scheduled to last for three days.

On Tuesday, many Serbs returned to their homes in Sarajevo after waiting for several hours for buses which had been due to take them out of the city.

The United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), which had refused to escort the convoys, organised by the Red Cross, was not able to confirm the report from the Bosnian military.

According to the Bosnian Army, delays in the departure of the convoys were caused by a petrol shortage in the besieged city.

Serbs Claim Muslim Interference

LD1011144792 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1133 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 10 Nov (TANJUG)—Part of the convoy which was to leave Sarajevo for Belgrade this morning did not leave the part of the town under Muslim control after all, SRNA reports citing Serb military sources from Lukavica.

SRNA reported earlier that the convoy set off toward Lukavica, but the Muslim authorities stopped it under the pretext that there are many military conscripts among the refugees.

The same source adds that a large number of people have gathered at Sarajevo's bus station since this morning, hoping that they will be able to leave the town which has turned into a hellhole for all its inhabitants. [passage omitted]

Serbs Plan To Rename Cities, Remove Cemeteries

AU1011145992 Paris AFP in English 1438 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, Nov 11 (AFP)—Bosnian Serbs, who "want to live in their own state" according to their leader Radovan Karadzic, plan to rename Sarajevo and all towns, rivers and mountains with Turkish-sounding names, the Belgrade daily paper VECERNJE reported Tuesday [10 November].

The Bosnian capital Sarajevo ('seraglio in the fields' in Turkish) would become Kotromangrad or Ninoslavgrad (the town of Kotroman or Ninoslav, from the Bosnian Kotromanic dynasty of 1233-1463), according to a proposal by "the bureau for the protection of cultural, historic and natural heritage" in the self-proclaimed "Serbian Republic" [of Bosnia-Herzegovina] covering 70 per cent of the territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"We will change all the placenames that bring back bad memories and which have been stripped of Serbian tradition," the director of the bureau, Radoslav Unkovic, told the paper .

The Bosnian Serbs have already removed the term 'Bosnian' [Bosanski] in reference to all the towns they control in the Sava basin in the north and in the west of the country.

They have even renamed the town of Skender Vakuf, about 200 kilometres (120 miles) northwest of Sarajevo, which has a majority Serb population.

Ilidza ('the town of baths' in Turkish), the strategic area north of Sarajevo [as received], will also change, but the new name remains as yet undecided.

The Serbs also propose to replace cemeteries where the 'shehidi' (fighters who died for Islam) are buried, by memorials to "Serbs who died for freedom and honour", and the Serbian language will be purged of 'Turkisms', said Unkovic.

Intellectuals in Belgrade immediately denounced the proposals, saying that "the mania for changing names is a legacy of the totalitarian communist regime".

Karadzic Calls for Partition of Sarajevo

PM1011123092 Rome L'ESPRESSO in Italian 8 Nov 92 pp 91-92

[Interview with Bosnian Serb President Radovan Karadzic by Daniel Schiffer in Geneva; date not given]

[Text] "Bosnia-Hercegovina's Serbs will not accept living for another 500 years under Muslim domination. They want to live or die a free people, in the knowledge that they are fighting to save their identity even more than their lives." These are the words of Radovan Karadzic, holder of a degree in the humanities and psychiatry and president of the Serbs in Bosnia-Hercegovina. In Geneva to meet the two mediators from the international peace conference on the former Yugoslavia, Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, Karadzic does not mince his words and upholds the Serbian cause with determination.

[Schiffer] Mr. Karadzic, what peace plan have you put forward after the failure of the first two conferences in London and Geneva? Do you see the possibility of an end to the war in the short term?

[Karadzic] I met with Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen [Conference on Yugoslavia cochairmen]. We discussed Sarajevo's most urgent problems, caused by continuous Muslim disturbance of the airport which makes humanitarian flights very difficult. And we reached the conclusion that stopping the fighting is top priority.

[Schiffer] How do you propose to achieve this?

[Karadzic] Croats and Serbs have reached an agreement—although they have not yet signed it—to try to stop hostilities, stop any army movement, and seriously discuss territorial issues. There is, however, a serious problem caused by the Muslims not yet being ready to discuss the issue face to face.

[Schiffer] Why do they refuse to do this?

[Karadzic] Muslims do not like sitting around a table and talking openly with Serbs and Croats, especially Serbs.

[Schiffer] What plans do you have for Sarajevo?

[Karadzic] We are ready to cooperate in demilitarizing the city—and I have told the mediators this—but we must protect the suburbs and the population. People think we are besieging the city but in fact this is not true: We are not laying siege to anything, we have no aggressive intentions; we are only protecting our people who live in the outskirts of the city.

[Schiffer] Do you mean that the Muslims are holding Serbs prisoner in Bosnia?

[Karadzic] Yes. They are ill-treated, starving, and considered hostages: threatened and held prisoner in their own homes. These are the people we want to get back under our protection and our jurisdiction.

[Schiffer] In this confusion, how do you envisage the territorial delimitation you mentioned?

[Karadzic] Initially green lines will have to be drawn across the city. But only temporarily, in order to separate the fighting factions. Then mixed patrols, consisting of UN soldiers and Serbian policemen, must be organized in the Serbian suburbs; and patrols consisting of UN soldiers and Muslim policemen in the Muslim quarters. With this system UN representatives would be free to pass through the various zones, while Serbian and Muslim policemen would not have to leave their respective areas. At that point we could then continue with the talks.

[Schiffer] Do you think peaceful coexistence is possible in Bosnia-Hercegovina between Croats, Serbs, and Muslims?

[Karadzic] There is such deep antagonism between these three national communities that any coexistence between them in a single state is impossible: The Muslims especially have a completely different conception of civic life and view of legislation from the Serbs. Thus we must separate these three ethnic groups into three different states.

[Schiffer] Bosnia's president, the Muslim Alija Izetbegovic, wrote in his "Islamic Declaration," published in Sarajevo in 1990, that he wanted to help build a fundamentalist Islamic state from Bosnia to Indonesia. What do you think of that?

[Karadzic] Alija Izetbegovic is a fundamentalist, certainly not someone seeking peace. He wants to found the first Islamic state in modern Europe in order to allow Islam to gain a foothold in the West. If he succeeds, it will be big trouble for civilized Europe.

[Schiffer] That does not eliminate the fact that in the eyes of international public opinion the Serbs are in the wrong. It is well known that the Croats used an American public relations agency to boost their image. Have you not thought of doing the same thing?

[Karadzic] Croatia made a timely move and thus won the sympathy of the United States. Today the feeling is that it is the Serbs, historically the West's allies during World War II, who are the United States' enemies. When I got wind of America's intention to send soldiers to Bosnia to fight us, I answered that my troops would never clash with our old allies.

[Schiffer] You have also been accused of applying so-called "ethnic cleansing!"

[Karadzic] "Ethnic cleansing" has never been part of our policy. Serbian authorities have never forced any Muslim or Croat to leave his own home. Indeed, when peace has returned to Bosnia, we shall allow the refugees to return to their land. What is happening today is "ethnic movement," but it is not deliberate. Having said that, I think it is obvious that Muslims feel ill at ease in Serbian territory and leave, but no one forces them. As for the Serbs, more than 350,000 have been turned out of their houses.

[Schiffer] And what about Serbian concentration camps in Bosnia?

[Karadzic] Unlike the Muslims, we do not kill our prisoners; that is why we had camps—not extermination camps as was reported, but prison camps. Today we have completely dismantled them and freed everybody. While the Muslims still have them. Europe is being deceived on this issue by the media and governments.

[Schiller] So why are the Serbs cast as the villains?

[Karadzic] The onset of the Yugoslav question caught us off our guard. We had no idea that the country's external borders could be so easily violated, that the secessionist movement would be so violent and organized, and that it would be given such encouragement by Europe, and by Germany in particular. Everybody can see the result.

Serbs Call for Yugoslav Army To Intervene

LD1111173392 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1307 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Nov (TANJUG)—The Serb National Council of Bosnian Krajina has appealed to FRY President Dobrica Cosic to allow regular units of the Army of Yugoslavia to enter the territory of eastern Hercegovina to help the Serb people, a statement issued by the association today stresses.

At the same time, able-bodied Serbs are being asked to return to eastern Hercegovina to defend it against the regular forces of the Republic of Croatia which, according to the statement, have embarked on a fierce offensive. "Serbs are being killed like flies" while trying to defend their hearths. They expect help from "mother Serbia" and displaced Serbs, the statement says in conclusion.

Mladic Says Serb Military Situation 'Favorable'

AU1011145892 Novi Sad DNEVNIK in Serbo-Croatian 7 Nov 92 p 2

[Interview with General Ratko Mladic, commander of the Army of the Serbian Republic of Bosnia Hercegovina, by Stevan Risovic: "I Am Defending Serbian Land"; place and date not given]

[Text] We have asked General Ratko Mladic, commander of the Army of the Serbian Republic [of Bosnia-Hercegovina], to comment on the claim by David Owen [cochairman of the Conference on Yugoslavia] in an interview for the German SPIEGEL that the Serbian General Mladic would not be allowed to carve up greater Serbia out of the territories of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

[Mladic] I do not know the details of Owen's statement, but I have heard the gist of it. I ask you, who is this Owen who is so "concerned" about the fate of the Serbs in the former Bosnia-Hercegovina? General Mladic is not carving up a greater Serbia, but defending the Serbian people and the Serbian nation, just as Mr. Owen would probably defend his people and his country.

[Risovic] Is the political and military situation favorable for Serbs in the former Bosnia-Hercegovina?

[Mladic] Politicians can decide on the political situation. As for the situation on the battlefields, it is favorable for the Serbs.

[Risovic] Fighting has died down in northern Bosnia. Bosanski Brod is free, there is no shooting, but there is no peace in Orasje, Gradacac, Maglaj....

[Mladic] The Croatian regular units have been defeated in Posavina, and pushed back across the Sava River to Croatia. Now they are trying to regroup around Orasje to launch an offensive. Of course, the Army of the Serbian Republic will readily respond to all their attacks. The best part of the northern border of the Serbian Republic is under our control, and I hope that soon the whole border will be totally secured. I repeat, the war in the former Bosnia-Hercegovina would soon be over if regular units of the Croatian Army withdrew. But, on the contrary, new units are being brought in from Croatia to Posavina.

[Risovic] There have been some estimates that there are about 60,000 to 70,000 soldiers of the regular Army of the Republic of Croatia in Bosnia-Hercegovina now.

[Mladic] According to our estimates, in Bosnia-Hercegovina, there are 38 Croatian brigades, 11 regiments, and seven units of a 1,000 men each.

[Risovic] The Yugoslav Army has withdrawn from Prevlaka and Konavli, which the Croatian Army took advantage of to launch a great offensive on the Hercegovina battlefield.

[Mladic] Prevlaka is the problem of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and not of the Serbian Republic. However, it is true that the Croatian Army has most brutally violated the agreement on Prevlaka, that it has breached all international norms, even the international war convention, and it has occupied 39 Serbian villages around Trebinje. I expect the international community, the United Nations, to sanction such behavior by Croatia.

[Risovic] General, what did you talk about with General Phillipe Morillon, commander of the UNPROFOR [UN Protection Force] for Bosnia-Hercegovina?

[Mladic] We insisted that these talks were concerned with the overall situation, not just the demilitarization of Sarajevo. We told General Morillon that the Serbian Republic was very interested in the cessation of all hostilities in the former Bosnia-Hercegovina, under the condition that the other two sides—the Croats and the Muslims—and also in a cease-fire. Some things have been done to calm the tensions among the warring sides, but not enough. I hope that the Croats and Muslims will be sincere in the intention to stop all hostilities, and that the problem of Bosnia-Hercegovina can be solved through negotiations, in a peaceful way.

Bosnian Serb Army Protests Croatian 'Offensive'

LD1111135292 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1327 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, Nov 10 (TANJUG)—The headquarters of the Army of the Bosnian Serb Republic has sent a letter to United Nations Secretary-General Butrus Ghali protesting over a general offensive by the regular Army of the former Yugoslav Republic of Croatia on the east Hercegovina front, the Bosnia Serbs' news agency SRNA said on Tuesday [10 November].

The letter was also sent, via the Sarajevo U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) command, to UNPROFOR chief and his deputy, generals Satish Nambiar and Philippe Morillon.

The headquarters of the Army of the Serb Republic (territory in Bosnia-Hercegovina with a majority Serb population) strongly protested over "the unprecedented violation of all resolutions so far adopted by the United Nations which aim to establish a peace in the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina."

It said that the regular Croatian Army, acting in collusion with the Moslems and the armed forces of the Bosnia Croats and the Croatian Defence Council (HVO), at 4:00 p.m. on Monday launched a "major offensive with 19 brigades against the Serb people and the Army of the Bosnian Serb Republic in eastern Hercegovina."

The headquarters of the Army of the Serb Republic asked Butrus Ghali, Nambiar and Morillon to excert their influence to induce "Croatia to immediately halt its aggression and withdraw its armed forces from occuppied Serb territories." The three officials are asked "to denounce in the strongest possible manner such a move and to aid in the introduction of corresponding U.N. sanctions against Croatia."

"Unless the Croatian aggression is immediately halted, we will be bound by our human, moral and military obligations towards our own people to use all our manpower and means to oppose the aggressor," it is said in the letter.

Red Cross Signs Reportedly Used in Air Attacks

LD1211140592 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 12 Nov 92

[Text] The Serb aggressor has been using the humanitarian air corridors for combat flights by its helicopters. This has been established by members of the anti-aircraft defense of the Croatian Defense Council in northwestern Hercegovina. Helicopters with Red Cross signs are flown through the Split-Sarajevo humanitarian aid air corridors tasked with reconnoitering, carrying out subversive actions, or assaults.

Silajdzic Meets With Austrian Foreign Minister

WA1011141892

For reportage on the talks in Vienna by Foreign Minister Silajdzic with Austrian Foreign Minister Mock, see the Austria section of the 10 November West Europe DAILY REPORT.

Russian General Sent to Help Serb 'Brothers'

AU1011121292 Zagreb VECERNJI LIST in Serbo-Croatian 7 Nov 92 p 7

[Report by I. Papac: "Brother in Blood and Arms"]

[Text] Dubrovnik—If it is true what the Serbian television has shown, then, as far as we know, a foreign high-ranking mercenary on the Serbian side faced the cameras and publicly stated that "he came to help the Serbs, his brothers in blood" as a soldier. We are talking about Russian General Ivanovich, who arrived in Trebinje to help Bozidar Vucurevic and his chetniks. The local television station filmed it all, and Croatian Television carried it on Thursday [5 November] on the program "Picture Upon Picture."

The Russian general obviously arrived neither on his own initiative as an adventurer nor alone and empty-handed. He said: "I was sent here by the National Salvation Front, the Russian party that is now struggling for power. I was sent by the Alliance of Officers and the officers of the General Staff. I came here not to internationalize this situation, but to help my brothers. The internationalization resulted from the American decision to introduce sanctions against Serbia, but I only want to help." When asked by a reporter how he would help, the Russian general, to obvious satisfaction of everybody present, answered: "I will help as a soldier, since I am not a poet."

It is clear that there are foreign mercenaries in the Serbian Army. However, a fact that a high-ranking Russian officer arrived to help the Hercegovina chetnik members of the so-called Hercegovina Corps should not be ignored. Bozidar Vucurevic, leader of Trebinje chetnik truck drivers, greeted a high Russian general with the words: "Mr. General, our Orthodox brother in religion and blood, you have arrived in the heart of Serbian Hercegovina, which was often watered with blood and scattered with bones, but on each occasion when defending itself. This is also the case now that you came to us. Welcome!"

Anything can be expected from the Serbian television and the chetnik hordes, even that they would dress up and pretend to be Russian officers. However, we asked for an opinion in the IDP [expansion unknown] service of the command of the southern battlefield of the Croatian Army. A representative of the IDP service, soldier Andrija Popovic, told us that those were most probably "Serbian idiocies" and lies and that for the time being he has no official commentary to this report.

The filmed Russian general did not wear a blue beret, as the UN Protection Force do, but a standard Russian officers' hat.

Russian Envoy Disavows Filatov Remarks

AU1011164792 Zagreb NOVI VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 8 Nov 92 First Edition p 7

[HINA report: "Russia Distancing Itself From Filatov Statement]

[Text] Split—Leonid V. Kerestedzhiyants, ambassador of the Russian Federation to Croatia, stated on Saturday [7 November] that he was sorry that generals exist in this country "who cannot distinguish what is fundamental for any soldier, namely, who is the aggressor, who is attacking, and who is defending himself."

Ambassador Kerestedzhiyants stated this in Split in connection with a statement made by General Filatov, member of the General Staff of the Russian Army, who, as Belgrade Radio reported, visited "Serbian Hercegovina" and stated: "I will convey to our comrade officers and generals in Moscow that true aggression has been launched against the Serbs, whose position is good but who need the help of the Russians."

"I personally would not like to work on any project with a general like this. Such statements have nothing in common with the stands of the Russian Government, our president, or our defense minister. An official position of our country exists, and as the ambassador I represent this official position. It is very important for me that such a statement not be interpreted in Croatia as verbal aggression. As ambassador, I state with full responsibility, in the name of the president and the Government of the Russian Federation, that we distance ourselves from the statement by General Viktor Filatov," said Leonid V. Kerestedzhiyants, Russian ambassador to Croatia.

Unions Agree Not To Hold General Strike

AU1011164192 Zagreb NOVI VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 10 Nov 92 p 1

[Report by Lj. M.: "Government, Trade Unions Sign Agreement"]

[Excerpt] Zagreb—Representatives of the government and the trade unions signed an agreement on Monday [9 November], which put an end to the clash over salaries. The government issued a by-law on the annulment of the earlier enactment on salaries, and signed an agreement with the trade unions. In accordance with the decisions by the authorities of the Croatian Association of Trade Unions, the Alliance of Independent Trade Unions of Croatia, the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions of Croatia, who confirmed Saturday's agreement, and the trade union center, there will be no referendum on a general strike on Tuesday 10 November. [passage omitted]

Joint Border Commissions With Croatia Viewed

AU1111092092 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 1430 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Slovene and Croatian delegations discussed the open issue of borders between the two states in Ljubljana this morning. The two delegations were lead by Slovene Foreign Minister Dr. Dimitrij Rupel and Dr. Davorin Rudolf, head of the Croatian state commission for borders. They held a news conference after the talks at which Dr. Rupel and Dr. Rudolf stated what was discussed and what was agreed. Nadja Pengov reports:

[Begin recording] [Pengov] Dr. Dimitrij Rupel first said that they endorsed the text of an agreement on establishing joint commissions for demarcation of state borders that had been compiled by the Slovene side. In his opinion this is an important first step that will facilitate the beginning of serious talks. They, of course, also discussed differences. Slovenia continues to advocate the position that the situation of 25 June 1991—the date when independence was proclaimed—should apply. The applicable criterion should be borders of land register districts in their original size. Other criteria, which would be considered in sea border drawing, should be discussed separately. The expert groups will prepare joint criteria in two week's time. Rupel's overall assessment of the talks was:

[Rupel] I must say that I am satisfied with the outcome of these talks. I think that we made a step that was missing so far and got, to use a sports term, the ball under control.

[Pengov] The two states respect borders, Dr. Davorin Rudolf said, and they have no territorial appetites. However, he considers the following important:

[Rudolf, in Serbo-Croatian] The president [as heard], Minister Rupel, and myself agreed to carry this out in the spirit of good neighborly relations, bearing in mind the national interests of both sides. We see no need to violate in any way [word indistinct] relations between Croatia and Slovenia in pursuing these efforts.

[Pengov] The Croatian side envisages different criteria reagarding borders—land registry districts, rivers [Dragonja, Kolpa], and the sea—but all must be in accordance with the rules of the international law.

Dr. Rudolf sees the solution for the Piran Bay in an administrative regime that would apply for the bay. He favors the condominium concept, that is, that both countries would share the authority over the Piran Bay. Contrary to this, Dr. Rupel does not believe the condominium idea is ideal. He also believes that the criteria for determination of state borders, as envisaged by Croatia, are controversial. For example, land registry district borders do not match borders on rivers. The Slovene side believes that a universal criterion must prevail in the drawing of borders between the two states. The combination of various criteria suits Croatia.

Regarding the issue of Trdina's Peak, that is to say, Mt. Sveta Gera, Dr.Rupel said that an agreement has already been reached at the meeting of defense ministers of both countries in Zagreb and that this issue was not discussed today. Dr. Davorin Rudolf said that clear statements on this issue, also conveyed to the public, were already made at the meeting of the two presidents [Kucan, Tudjman] at Brdo near Kranj. [end recording]

Osimo Pact Reaffirmed, Border With Italy Upheld

AU1111180892 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 1430 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Yugoslavia and Italy signed the Osimo Agreements on 10 November 1975. They came into effect less than two years later. Marking the anniversary of the signing, Slovene Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel made a statement today. He told the press about our present position toward this document and also toward some events in neighboring Italy. Zvone Zorko prepared a longer report from the news conference:

[Begin recording] [Zorko] Slovene Foreign Minister Rupel first described the signing of the Osimo Agreements as a very important event in relations between Italy and what was at that time Yugoslavia. Namely, with this agreement both signatories formally agreed on several political, economic, and other issues. This was, in effect, also the first bilateral document signed in Europe after the Helsinki Conference. The Osimo Agreements thus formed the basis for neighborly relations, also because they finally resolved the problem of the border and facilitated realization of the most open border in Europe.

Rupel said the following about the current problems connected to the Osimo Agreements:

[Rupel] It has been 17 years since the signing of the Osimo Agreements, and as you all know, the spirit of Osimo is alive again, or rather, it is haunting us again. What I would call extremist forces in the Trieste area launched another real offensive against the Osimo Agreements during the last week of October. They criticized the Italian Government for confirming the Osimo Agreement too hastily without entering into negotiations with the new state of Slovenia, from which, in their opinion, Italy could have gotten a good deal. When we discussed implementation of the bilateral agreement, both sides concluded that some issues are outdated, or rather, superseded. Remember the famous statement by [former Italian Foreign Minister] Gianni De Michelis (?altre Osimo) [in Italian] which means something that is beyond Osimo? Well, these things will have to be replaced with new agreements.

Slovenia's position with regard to this is clear, and I have explained it personally on several public occasions. By exchanging notes on 31 July in Rome, Italy, and Slovenia reaffirmed the validity of the entire Osimo Agreement. The Slovene side is open to constructive talks and

negotiations on some particular areas within the agreements, not including the border, of course. We are not commenting now on these issues, but, of course, the Osimo Agreements as such remain in force. The agreements are formally and legally valid and none of us want to make a problem out of them.

[Zorko] Regarding the scheduled and subsequently canceled visit of Slovene Prime Minister Drnovsek to Italy, Rupel said:

[Rupel] Drnovsek's visit to Rome is pending. The Foreign Ministry is working to make it happen. If it does not take place in a week or two, then it might take place in December. This would under no circumstances, however, bring our relations in question. It is a fact that the events in Trieste poisoned the atmosphere to a degree in the region along the border, but it is also a fact that relations between Slovenia and Italy are quite good and that, of course, one cannot equate individual extremist statements by some parties with the official positions of both governments. [end recording]

Parliament Endorses Property Transformation Laws

AU1211095092 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 0600 GMT 12 Nov 92

[Text] After nearly two years, the Slovene Assembly yesterday finally adopted the property transformation law. Together with the reconstruction of economy and rehabilitation of banks, this law will facilitate normal economic development. The parliament will decide on rehabilitation of banks and ironworks today. Vesna Burnik reports:

[Begin recording] Satisfaction that, after two years of expert and political disputes, Slovenia finally got its property legislation can be great and little, depending on what one expected from the law. It is now clear that the economy will be spared of uncertainly while it will be the turn of those who during this period carried out privatization in a rather dubious fashion to worry.

In the next six months the activities are supposed to take place that will allow the beginning of privatization according to this law. The directives prescribing the methodology for drawing the opening balance of accounts [otvoritvena bilanca] that will form the basis for evaluation are expected within this period, as well as the guidelines for the preparation of a program of property transformation in companies and for distribution of the certificates of ownership. The operation of investment companies that will administer citizens' stocks must also be prescribed. The Law on Economic Associations that will prescribe the legal basis for their formation and their organizational forms must also be adopted.

It seems that there will be no problems with this law, as two Assembly chambers endorsed the draft of this law yesterday, while the Chamber of Communes transformed the draft into the proposal of the law. Theoretically speaking, the law could, therefore, be adopted today.

The property transformation law envisages that the companies themselves will choose the privatization program. Public property will be distributed among the citizens up to 40 percent. A proportion will be allocated to the pensions', compensations', and development funds. The employees will be given a discount in purchasing the stocks of their own company.

All employees, except in the public sector, will be able to exchange their certificates of ownership for the stocks of the company where they work, while others, including children, will be given the stocks of one of the investment funds. However, the certificates of ownership will be of various amounts, subject to the duration of employment. [end recording]

Federal

Cosic To Run in Elections If Milosevic Does

LD1111235192 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2245 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Nov (TANJUG)—In its 12 November issue, BORBA reports—quoting well-informed sources—that Dobrica Cosic will put forward his candidature in the coming elections if Slobodan Milosevic runs for president of Serbia. This information, writes BORBA, was revealed at a closed high-level political meeting and presented as a truthful interpretation of Dobrica Cosic's latest stand.

Panic, Opposition Decide To Unite for Election

LD1111155492 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1246 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Nov (TANJUG)—A group for coordination of election activities, consisting of representatives from the Federal Government, Depos, the Democratic Party, the Serbian Civic League, and the Social-Democratic Party, reached an agreement today to unite forces in the election preparations, TANJUG learned from circles close to the Federal Government. Prime Minister Milan Panic attended the meeting.

Representatives of the government and a part of the opposition formed six committees to deal with election strategy, rallies, information activities, and financial issues. The coordination group was briefed about interest of other political parties in its work. A permanent coordination meeting, which started yesterday, was in session today and will continue tomorrow.

Cosic Writes UN Chief on Croatian 'Offensive'

LD1211014792 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0002 GMT 12 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, 12 Nov (TANJUG)—FRY President Dobrica Cosic sent a letter to UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali late this evening appealing to Butrus-Ghali, as well as to the UN Security Council and the EC, to immediately put pressure on Croatia and Muslims in Bosnia-Hercegovina to urgently halt the fighting, especially in eastern Hercegovina.

The text of the letter reads:

"By 20 October 1992, Yugoslav Army units fully complied with their plan for the withdrawal of the Yugoslav Army from Cavtat and Herceg Novi, and accomplished their task concerning the demilitarization of Prevlaka. Not respecting the provisions of this plan, units of the Army of the Republic of Croatia provoked incidents on several occasions, and even opened fire on and across units of the Yugoslav Army in Montenegro, about which I informed you in my letters of 31 October and 4 November 1992.

"On this occasion I would like to inform you that the general offensive of the regular units of the Republic of Croatia against eastern Hercegovina has continued for a fourth consecutive day, focusing on the Mostar-Nevesinje and Dubrovnik-Trebinje fronts. In the early hours of 11 November 1992, units of the army of the Republic of Croatia began a heavy general attack on the above areas supported by 16 brigades and units. The crimes that were committed on these occasions against innocent and defenseless civilians of Serbian nationality can be classified as genocide.

"On 6 November, I had an important meeting in Geneva with Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen [cochairmen of the Conference on Yugoslavia] on finding ways and methods of exerting influence on the Serbian leadership in Bosnia-Hercegovina to immediately halt armed activities and start negotiations on political solutions to the agony in Bosnia-Hercegovina. To this end, I had talks with Mr. Radovan Karadzic, asking him to exert political influence on Serbian military forces, which Mr. Karadzic immediately accepted. In order to ensure that this agreement with the Serb commands was better founded—in accordance with Messrs Vance and Owen—I engaged military experts of the Yugoslav Army General Staff. A consultative meeting of Serbian military and political forces in Bosnia-Hercegovina was held on 8 November in Bijeljina. On 9 November, Mr. Radovan Karadzic, in his capacity as president of the Serb Republic, announced his peace plan and informed Messrs Vance and Owen about it. A glimmer of hope appeared of finally starting a peace process in Bosnia-Hercegovina. Unfortunately, pressure was put on the Serbian side to halt its war activities and once again the peace-plan remained one-sided. Adequate pressure failed to be exerted on Croatia and on Bosnia-Hercegovina Muslims, who are equal participants in the intranational and religious war in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

"Thus the traditional policy based on the principle of Serbian responsibility for the civil war in Bosnia-Hercegovina has continued. Our joint efforts remained without success. The Croatian state with Bosnian Croats and Muslims responded to the Serbian peace plan with a major offensive, as I have already told you.

"Mr. Secretary General, I appeal to you, to the UN Security Council, and to the EC to use your powers and exert adequate influence on Croatia and Muslims in Bosnia-Hercegovina to ensure that they immediately halt their military activities, accept the draft Serbian peace plan, and begin political talks with Serbs in Bosnia-Hercegovina about a state and political structure in Bosnia-Hercegovina. The international community, i.e. its political forums, are primarily responsible for the war in Bosnia-Hercegovina and for the peace we long for. Let us not waste the last moments to save the people of Yugoslavia and the Balkans from a tragedy that will bring great misfortune for Europe and the world. I beg you to act decisively and with all available means.

"If Croatia continues to violate the above plan despite your involvement, the Yugoslav Army will be forced to take drastic measures to protect the Serbian people in eastern Hercegovina and Montenegro."

Copies of the letter were sent to Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance, cochairmen of the international conference on the former Yugoslavia, UN Protection Force Commander General Satish Nambiar, EC chairman John Major, and Croatian President Franjo Tudjman.

Cosic Offers Greece Assurance on Macedonia

LD1111151192 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1339 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Nov (TANJUG)—Dobrica Cosic, president of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia [FRY], sent a letter to Greek President Constantin Karamanlis stressing that the FRY will not recognize the Republic of Macedonia before similar action by the European Community.

"I have been informed," Cosic writes, "that the Greek public was alarmed to hear news that the FRY might recognize the Republic of Macedonia. This news also caused dissatisfaction among the Yugoslav public, because identical national interests are behind the deep Serbian-Greek friendship", Cosic notes

"This fact makes it imperative for me," he adds, "to reiterate the stand of the Federal Assembly and my own that the FRY will not recognize the Republic of Macedonia until the European Community does, although within the framework of its evil sanctions it is exerting political pressure on us to recognize all secessionist republics of the former Yugoslavia.

"Loyal to Greece, our long standing ally in the struggle for freedom, democracy, and Christian culture, we shall confirm on this occasion our friendship which helps consolidate the situation on the Balkans. Meanwhile, in the spirit of its principled policy of good-neighborly relations with all neighboring states, the FRY will develop wide-ranging cooperation with the Republic of Macedonia in the hope that the international and interstate dispute between Greece and Macedonia will be resolved to mutual satisfaction as soon as possible," President Cosic writes.

The letter to Greek President Karamanlis concludes "mutual interests make it imperative that we meet as soon as possible and have talks on ways of improving cooperation between Greece and the FRY and create conditions for peace and consolidate the Balkan space."

Refugees from Sarajevo Reach Belgrade

LD1111235092 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2257 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Nov (TANJUG)—About 180 refugees who left Pale this morning arrived in Belgrade's Sumice sports center at 2210 this evening.

The convoy of refugees, mainly women, children and invalids, was greeted by representatives of the Serbian Red Cross, a first aid team, and representatives of the Serbian Commission for Refugees.

After refreshments consisting of sandwuches and fruit juice, most of the refugees set off to stay with their relatives in Belgrade or the suburbs, but 20 will be accommodated in collection centers in the Yugoslav capital.

Most of the refugees are Serbs, but there are also 20 Muslims and Croats.

Speaking to a TANJUG reporter, they all stressed that Sarajevo is "a city of ruins, hunger and misery" and that "there is no life in it any more."

Government To Tax Foreign Ships Using Danube

LD1111223292 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1505 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, November 11 (TANJUG)—A tax, averaging 2,000 dollars, will be paid by foreign vessels for the use of the Danube through the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia as of Wednesday [11 November], Yugoslav Minister of Transportation and Communications Dr. Milan Vujcic said on Wednesday in a statement to TANJUG. The federal minister said that the measure was economic and not political.

"Between 10 and 12 million dollars are required annually for the maintenance" of the Danube waterway through Yugoslavia, Vujcic said.

Vujcic said that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was directly responsible for the safety of foreign vessels in the Yugoslav part of the Danube. Because of the U.N. sanctions introduced against Yugoslavia on May 30, over 90 percent of the Yugoslav river shipping company's vessels have for months been in dock and the Danube has mostly been used by vessels flying foreign flags.

The shipping tax will depend on a vessel's tonnage.

The Yugoslav minister of transportation and communications said that competent institutions of neighbouring countries had been on time informed about the introduction of the tax for foreign shipping on the Danube, and said he saw no reason why neighbouring states had protested.

The tax is not a blow to free shipping on the Danube, but primarily a measure which will secure funds for safe shipping along the international waterway, Vujcic said in the statement to TANJUG.

UN Envoys Seek Limits to Sanctions for Sick

LD1111192792 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0610 GMT 11 Nov 92

["Pool" item]

[Text] New York, November 10 (TANJUG)—The ambassadors of U.N. Security Council members and non-aligned countries, with whom Yugoslav Foreign Minister Ilija Djukic talked to in New York on Tuesday [10 November], stated readiness to seek such solutions as would avoid having the economic sanctions affect the sick and the children.

Djukic talked at the U.N. headquarters to the Chinese, U.S., French, Russian, Indian, Austrian and the ambassador of Ecuador.

They discussed the Yugoslav government's contribution to the peaceful denouement of the crisis on the territory of the former Yugoslavia, the severe sanctions imposed against Yugoslavia in late May over its alleged involvement in the ethnic war in the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina and the status of Yugoslavia in the U.N.

Djukic and the Ecuadorean ambassaor, who presides the U.N. Sanctions Committee, agreed on the need for an independent foreign institution to check out the Yugoslav oil balance.

Yugoslav Prime Minister Milan Panic asked last month the U.N. Security Council to allow imports of 800,000 tonnes of oil needed for heating the hospitals and schools in Yugoslavia.

On the basis of statements of some Yugoslav officials and the writing of the press, however, some Sanctions Committee members were suspect of the necessity for this type of aid.

Minister Djukic explained to the Ecuadorean ambassador that there were always clever individuals capable of violating the embargo, but that the quantity of oil imported in this way was small and that there was no chance of it being used for heating schools and hospitals.

All those Minister Djukic conferred with believe Yugoslavia continued as U.N. member, although it was this Autumn denied the right to participate in the work of the U.N. General Assembly. Majority of them, however, believe that the definitive solution to the issue of Yugoslav status would require submitting a formal admission request.

The Yugoslav prime minister has submitted a request for the admittance of Yugoslavia to the U.N., but not a formal one, on the same day that the country - now made up of Serbia and Montenegro - were denied the right to participate in the work of the General Assembly and its organs.

Daily Claims Starvation Threatens Country

LD1011225992 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1430 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, November 10 (TANJUG)—Food producers in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia have warned that starvation is threatening the country, the Belgrade daily BORBA writes on Tuesday [10 November].

It is increasingly difficult to get food both because of shortages and reduced purchasing power, says the paper.

BORBA quotes a statement by Serbia's Minister for Agriculture Jan Kqsgeci, who said that 'there cannot be starvation' in the country after the yields of 2.3 million tonnes of wheat and 5.3 million tonnes of maize and with sufficient sugar and oil supplies.

Last month, Federal Minister of Agriculture Ratko Lazarevic said that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia would need to import wheat.

There will also be problems with milk, said Lazarevic, explaining that, due to a bad policy pursued over the past eight years, the overall number of cows has fallen 30 percent.

Yugoslavia produces around 1.8 million litres of milk annually. Due to insufficient production over the past few years, Serbia has annually imported 400,000 litres of milk, mostly from Hungary.

As the mortality of cattle has increased in the past few months, there will soon be no meat at all on the market although there is a surplus at the moment, says the paper.

The main reason for this is the high price of fodder, said Director of the Serbian Cattle Breeding Business Association Vojislav Žecevic.

The Belgrade Price Administration, which issues monthly reports on the subsistence level costs for a four-member family, said that they amounted to 195,421 dinars (around 977 dollars) in October.

Two thirds of the sum accounted for food, said director of the department Miroslav Vujadinovic. Last month, the subsistence level costs rose 53 percent on the September and 130 percent on the October 1991 figures.

The consumer's basket and the subsistence level costs have been considerably above the average family earnings over the past several months while they never accounted for more than 80 percent of the earnings in the past decade.

Oil Production Increases Will Not Cover Needs

LD1211120992 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1134 GMT 12 Nov 92

[Text] Novi Sad, Nov 10 (TANJUG)—In spite of planned increases, the production of petroleum in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia will cover only 25 per cent of the country's annual needs, general director of the firm NIS-NAFTAGAS Srboljub Stankovic said on Thursday [12 November].

Serbia's oil industry (NIS) expects oil production at sites in the Serbian province of Vojvodina to reach 1.2 million tonnes - about ten per cent more than last year.

An estimated 870 million cubic metres of natural gas, or about 13 per cent more than in 1991, are also expected to be produced this year. This quantity, however, will cover only one-fifth of all industrial and household needs in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Oil and gas imports to Yugoslavia stopped after the U.N. Security Council on May 30 this year imposed tough political and economic sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (the republics of Serbia and Montenegro).

The oil and gas production increase comes from a new exploitation site in Vojvodina, Turija, where ten wells

have been sunk in four years. The site's 1992 output is expected to reach 65,000 tonnes of oil, and about 200,000 tonnes in 1993.

Serbia's President Slobodan Milosevic said at the official opening of the Turija oilfield on Tuesday that 'This example of a significant production increase shows that our economy is capable not only of keeping up its performance but of actually improving it.'

Serbia's opposition has called Milosevic's statement absurd, arguing that Yugoslavia's economy is highly import and export dependent, particularly its petrochemical sector.

Analysts say Milosevic's statement that 'We shall neither freeze nor starve' was aimed mainly at placating the local population.

The international embargo on deliveries of oil to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has also stopped the flow of oil from Angola, where NAFTAGAS holds a concession on an annual production of about 250,000 tonnes of petroleum.

Stankovic said that the oil was now being exploited by other firms, while NAFTAGAS was still contractually bound to pay exploration costs and taxes.

NAFTAGAS is planning to opep up 39 new boreholes next year, Stankovic said, adding that this would include the completion of work already started in Ulcinj, on the Montenegrin coast, and 22 exploration and 17 production wells in Vojvodina.

The coming winter and in particular a serious shortage of mazout [crude oil] have compelled Federal Prime Minister Milan Panic to seek from the U.N. Sanctions Committee clearance for importing 800,000 tonnes of heating oil for humanitarian purposes.

Bulatovic Barred From Office by Serbian Police

LD1111163292 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1447 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 11 Nov (TANJUG)—Federal Internal Affiars Minister Pavle Bulatovic has not returned to his office in the federal police building at 90-92 Knez Milos Street, TANJUG has learned from the office of the federal minister.

The reason for this is "the fact that the situation has not changed." Members of the Serbian Internal Affiars Ministry still control the federal police building. [passage omitted]

Sources close to the Federal Internal Affars Ministry say that instead of the locks and bolts that prevented employees of the Federal Internal Affiars Ministry from entering the builing, there are now members of the Serbian Internal Affairs Ministry. "Thus, the court ruling is only observed formally, while a technical barrier has been replaced with a live one," TANJUG learned from the Federal Internal Affairs Ministry.

The same source says that Bulatovic and Serbian Interor Minister Zoran Sokolovic met yesterday and that the meeting concluded that conditions were not created for employees of the Federal Internal Affairs Ministry to return to their building.

The two ministers are due to continue talks today, but it is uncertain whether and when the meeting will take place, TANJUG was told at the Federal Internal Affairs Ministry.

Serbia

Prime Minister Calls for End to War in Bosnia

LD1111234392 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1913 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Nov (TANJUG)—The government of the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia feels that it is the most important to bring a halt to the war in the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina (BiH) and have the three BiH peoples—Muslims, Serbs and Croats—open a dialogue.

Serbia's Prime Minister Radoman Bozovic said in an interview to the Russian TV station Tyumen that his government was against any external interference in BiH and for the withdrawal of regular army units of the former Yugoslav Republic of Croatia from the territory of BiH.

Bozovic said it was indispensable that "Yugoslavia, the former Yugoslav republics and the international community put pressure on all sides in Bosnia to lay down arms and open a dialogue."

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Serbia accept, without any reservations, the international obligation to influence an end to the civil war in Bosnia, just as they accept any solution with which all the three peoples in BiH will agree, Bozovic said.

"The Republic of Serbia has no territorial claims and it accepts Bosnia's territorial integrity, but it cannot give up providing humanitarian aid to Serbs living in BiH," Bozovic said.

Bozovic said he was afraid that international factors continued to recognize BiH as a state of only one people, the Muslim. "If this continues, the fighting could last," Bozovic warned.

Not only that the recognition of BiH as a unitary Muslim state cannot suit Bosnian Serbs, but it is also against the will of Bosnian Croats, Bozovic said.

Bozovic said the international community's interference in the civil war in BiH was above all responsible for the continued fighting there.

Bozovic said that, in the conditions of the U.N. economic sanctions against Yugoslavia, his government has succeeded through great efforts to ensure economic activities and the state's social functions.

Serbia's prime minister said he hoped the countries which had already become victims of the so-called new world order would show understanding for Serbia's stands.

Muslim Ultimatum Expires; Sandzak Still Peaceful

LD1111201892 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1637 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Novi Pazar, 11 Nov (TANJUG)—The deadline of an ultimatum issued by Sulejman Ugljanin, chairman of the Party of Democratic Action of Sandzak, that he would activate the Muslim National Council (MNV—illegal government) [TANJUG parentheses] and drive the army and the police out unless UNPROFOR [UN Protection Force] is deployed in Sandzak has expired today and nothing has happened in Novi Pazar. The town was peaceful and looked normal. Ugljanin has obviously given up his ultimatum issued on 1 November. Instead of the announced conflict with the authorities, the MNV appealed to the Serbs in Priboj to work together on the return of Muslim refugees to Priboj.

"The Committee for Interethnic Cooperation should continue activities on the initiation of a joint action to stop emigration, and to create conditions for the return of Muslim refugees to Priboj, if the local Serb population which makes up the majority in Priboj expresses its readiness for that" a statement by MNV says. The statement calls on the republican and federal authorities to issue a public statement regarding the kidnapping of 17 Muslims from Sjeverin near Priboj, and say which steps have been taken to uncover the perpetrators of this crime.

Sandzak Leader: 'Turkey Will Help Us Fight'

AU1011171192 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 4 Nov 92 p 10

[Report by R. Halilovic: "Here I Am, Here You Are"]

[Text] Novi Pazar—"Here I am with you after a lengthy absence as there is no room for me in Radio Novi Pazar, which will, God willing, soon be our radio station, and then we will be the ones to decide who can work there. Now only people who support Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic or his kind are allowed to speak on the radio," said Dr. Sulejman Ugljanin, leader of the Party of Democratic Action for Sandzak, in front of a packed hall of the Theater of Culture in Novi Pazar.

"I have spent some time in Zagreb and some Muslim countries enrolling our students in their universities. In a few days, over 750 of our students will travel to Turkey, and some other Muslim countries, which have promised to provide a free education for our children.

Many today ask who is going to defend Sandzak from the chetniks. And I tell them—we have about 15,000 Muslims in every town in Sandzak. Unfortunately they are unarmed. How can they confront armed people," Ugljanin said, accusing the United States for giving false promises that, if Bosnia were attacked after Croatia, it would intervene militarily. The leader of the Party of Democratic Action said that the London conference was a greater Serbia conference and, as such, was aimed against the Muslim people.

Turning to the events in Priboj, Pljevlje, Podgorica and Bijelo Polje, Ugljanin said that the things that were being done there were the dirtiest act ever witnessed by mankind, and he called General Ratko Mladic the greatest war criminal against the Bosnian people, and said that he was now turning his attention to Sandzak. As for Mahmut Memic, deputy federal minister for human rights, Ugljanin called him "our turncoat," and said that he had done nothing for Sandzak. "But we will no longer be afraid," Ugljanin said, "because Turkey will help us fight the chetniks, and I was given such assurances when I was in Turkey recently. But I am sending you this message from here: never raise your hand against the Serbs and Montenegrins. Have good relations as you have done so far." Ugljanin also announced that his party would not take part in the elections until the Muslims were given all rights. "If we do not get them, we will start a mass rally and activate the national council. We will expel the police and the army from this region, because we no longer wish to live under occupation," Ugljanin said.

[Box, p 10]

Declaration of War on Serbia

"The leader of the Party of Democratic Action is calling for a conflict with the legitimate bodies of the authorities and defense, which is in effect an open declaration of war on Serbia. That is so far the worst example of warmongering by the Party of Democratic Action. However, sensible people pay no heed to their senseless raving, which no longer frightens the Serbs or reasonable Muslims. It only confirms the assessment that the Party of Democratic Action is a paramilitary organization that is completely isolated from the Muslim people and working against them," says the statement by the Association of Citizens "Ras" from Novi Pazar, regarding the latest statements by the leader of the Party of Democratic Action for Sandzak.

"We appeal to Serbs and Muslims to ignore the war cries of the Party of Democratic Action, and to get on with their normal lives. Do not support them in anything. The leaders of the Party of Democratic Action have made a huge profit out of the suffering of the poor. Why should you continue to finance them," says the Association of Citizens.

Accord Reached on TV, Radio During Campaign

LD1111190592 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2227 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, November 10 (TANJUG)—A total of 41 political parties in Serbia approved on Tuesday [10 November] an accord on representation of parties on the

republic's radio and television during the election campaign in this Yugoslav republic. Among these parties, however, there were no larger parties of the so-called democratic opposition.

Of the 41 parties, as many as 24 signed the accord. Of the parliamentary parties, there are only the ruling Socialist Party of Serbia and the rightist Serbian Radical Party. The other signatories belonged to the so-called small parties.

Early parliamentary and presidential elections will be held in Serbia on December 20, parallel with the elections for the federal parliament.

The largest number of opposition parties has not yet said whether they would take part in them and accused the republican government of only partially meeting their election demands. Among the demands that were unfulfilled, the most frequent was the one calling for "freeing" the republican media, primarily television, which was being accused of biased reporting - in favor of the ruling party.

In view of Serbian Information Minister Milivoje Pavlovic, who presided the meeting, the accord may be signed later by the parties that did not attend or had left the meeting.

Representatives of some opposition parties left the meeting dissatisfied with the course it had taken. As explained by a Democratic Party statement, the third largest parliamentary party, the Serbian government proposed an accord that significantly departed from the accord reached at the republican round table held last month.

Together with four other parties, the Democratic Party, the statement said, drew up a proposal for conduct of Serbian radio and television which, as set out, was assessed as acceptable by the federal government and the management of the Serbian television.

However, as claimed by the Democratic Party, the Serbian government rejected it, denying any possibility of adjustment to its proposal.

The proposal of the five opposition parties, however, was entered as an amendment into the accord, the final formulation of which was left to the working group.

Territorial Claims Against Macedonia Disavowed

LD1111000292 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1731 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, 10 Nov (TANJUG)—The Republic of Serbia has no territorial claims against Macedonia and maintains that the borders of that republic are inviolable, the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the Republic of Serbia said in a statement today.

The statement says:

"In connection with a decision of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to continue as an independent subject of the international community, the Serbian Foreign Affairs Ministry—proceeding from the principle of good-neighborly relations and principles contained in the UN Charter and the relevant CSCE document, and from the declaration adopted on 27 April by people's deputies of the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Montenegro at a joint session of the Assembly of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia—states once more that the Republic of Serbia has no territorial pretensions over the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and that it regards the borders of this former Yugoslav republic as inviolable."

Macedonia

New Citizenship Law Takes Effect 10 Nov

LD1111161292 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1220 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Skopje, 10 November, (TANJUG)—A new Macedonian citizenship will be in effect as of today. It enables all those citizens of Macedonia who are not registered as its citizens to apply for Macedonian citizenship.

Citizens of Macedonian ethnic origins and those born in Macedonia are exempted from the obligation to apply as their citizenship will be established as a matter of official routine.

Macedonian citizenship will be established in a further procedure in cases of foreign nationals currently living in the republic as well as of those citizens of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia who have registered their permanent or temporary residence in Macedonia's territory.

According to the essential provision of the new law, Macedonian citizenship can be granted to individuals who have continuously lived for 15 years in the territory of this former Yugoslav republic. All those who do not meet this condition and are not married to a Macedonian citizen will automatically be given a foreign national's status after the period of 12 months.

However, even those citizens of the former Yugoslavia in Macedonia who fulfill the 15-year condition or are married to a Macedonian citizen can obtain citizenship only if they meet some further conditions—including those which require a steady source of income to finance accommodations and living costs.

The law empowers the republican ministry for internal affairs to decide "at its discretion" whether or not a person should be granted citizenship. In addition, the ministry for internal affairs is also empowered to invalidate already issued certificates of citizenship at its discretion.

Albanian Paper Opposes Independent State

LD1011231892 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1650 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] Pristina, Nov 10 (TANJUG)—Riots last weekend in Skopje have shown that Macedonia cannot exist as the

state, particularly not as an independent state—asserts the Pristina Albanian-language BUJKU newspaper.

The newspaper of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo and Metohija, province of the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia, maintains that "without the exercise of Albanians' political will, their full subjectivity as a constituent element, there cannot be any stable and independent Macedonia."

Macedonian Albanians (21 per cent population) are a national minority in this ex-Yugoslav republic, but they want the status of a constituent nation and Macedonia constituted as a federation or a confederation of ethnic cantons.

Tensions in Macedonia between Macedonians and ethnic Albanians have been present for some time, having escalated on Friday [6 November] when around 3,000 Albanians clashed with Macedonian police in Skopje, capital of the republic that has not yet obtained international recognition because of Greece's opposition.

The clash, in which four people died and thirty were injured, including several policemen, broke out when police arrested one Albanian cigarette trafficker in central Skopje's market.

Leaders of Macedonian Albanians accused police of having provoked the conflict in Skopje, while a police investigation ascertained that Albanians had in advance been prepared and armed for a conflict.

BUJKU newspaper warned that Macedonia cannot become a democratic state through "a police and repressive regime because this may boomerang on it with equal consequences for all."

The conduct of Macedonian police on Tuesday was sharply censured by the Albanian Government which said in an announcement monitored by the Albanian ATA news agency that the incident in Skopje was "setting fire to the region."

The Macedonian police chief on Monday announced that 11 Albanians from Albania were arrested and 16 Albanians from Kosovo after taking part in riots in Skopje.

Leaders of political parties of Albanians in Macedonia and Kosovo and Metohija, just as those in Tirana, are trying to form "a greater Albania" to comprise Albania, Kosovo and Metohija, and an Albanian-populated part of Macedonia.

Albanian Party Protests Police Actions in Skopje

AU1111154492 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1330 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Statement issued by Kosovo Democratic Alliance; place and date not given]

[Text] Concerning the events in Skopje, the Kosovo Democratic Alliance [LDK] Presidency issued the following statement yesterday:

The brutal intervention by the Macedonian police in Bit Pazar, which had tragic results as four people were killed and dozens of others were beaten, arrested, and convicted, was a premeditated example of the violence that the Macedonian police uses against Albanians in Macedonia. There was no reason for the police to use firearms.

Killing innocent people in their homes proves that a preplanned scenario preceded the tragic events in Bit Pazar, and the subsequent campaign against Albanians. This violence, carried out with such severity, testifies that such a police action was intended to heighten fear and insecurity among the Albanians of Skopje and Macedonia. It was aimed at condemning the Albanians, who have so far attempted to solve their problems and resolve their status through civil and parliamentary dialogue, giving the Macedonian authorities no excuse to use violence.

The Albanians of Macedonia have proved time and again that they favor stability in Macedonia and the region in general. The Macedonian police actions and the attitude that Albanians should be treated as unequal citizens in Macedonia creates space for Serbian expansionism and the right-wing Macedonian nationalist forces, which are alerted to public gatherings by several Macedonian parties and political groups.

We wish to put an end to such actions. Those responsible for the Skopje tragedy should bear the responsibility for it. We think that the violence against Albanians cannot contribute to the stability of Macedonia, to relations with the two neighboring countries, or to relations with Kosovo.

Kosovo

Army Guards Spar With Youth in Pristina

LD1111093592 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0806 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Pristina, Yugoslavia, Nov 11 (TANJUG)—One person was killed and two were wounded in an incident which occurred in Serbia's province of Kosovo-Metohija on Wednesday [11 November] morning. According to initial unconfirmed information, unknown armed assailants attacked the guards outside the building of the Yugoslav Army's Pristina garrison command somewhat before 6 a.m. local time, wounding two of the guards, one of them seriously. The guards returned fire and killed one of the assailants.

Pristina is the capital of Kosovo-Metohija, the southern province of the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia.

The area outside the command building in central Pristina has been sealed off and investigation is in progress.

An ethnic Albanian separatist movement in Kosovo-Metohija has recently unlawfully proclaimed Kosovo a republic and is fighting for its unification with Albania.

Assailant Reportedly Albanian

LD1111115292 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1038 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Pristina, Yugoslavia, Nov 11 (TANJUG)—According to an unconfirmed report, an armed assailant that was killed while attacking the guards outside the command building of the Yugoslav Army garrison in Pristina, Kosovo-Metohija, on Wednesday morning, was ethnic Albanian.

A search of the body revealed an identity card in the name of Nasijet Selimi, born in 1966 in Veliki Trnovac, district of Bujanovac in the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia, of which Kosovo- Metohija is a province. He was also carrying a sheath-knife and some money in Yugoslav and foreign currency.

In the incident, which occurred at 5.45 a.m., one of the assailants, with a drawn knife, attacked and wounded a guard, while the others shot at and wounded the other guard, unofficial sources said.

Other security officers acted promptly in the defence of their fellows and killed one of the attackers.

Eyewitnesses said that at least two attackers managed to escape, and a search for them is in progress.

Military sources said that the wounded soldiers were not in immediate danger and that an official statement would be released on the incident.

An ethnic Albanian separatist movement in this Serbian province has unlawfully proclaimed Kosovo-Metohija a republic and strives for its unification with neighbouring Albania.

Party Alleges Albanians Provoked

LD1111133392 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1200 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] The information service of the Democratic Alliance of Kosovo [Demokratski Savez Kosova; DSK] reports that at 0545 yesterday—following a shoot-out in the center of Pristina—citizens heard machine-gun fire outside the military command building. Shots were also heard in other parts of town during the night. The Serbian media contends that sentries at the Pristina Corps Command were attacked. Witnesses, however, say that the sentries provoked three young men who were passing the Command and that one of the young men seized a gun from one of the soldiers and fired. Other Yugoslav soldiers then killed this young Albanian. They also stress that the two other men ran from the spot and that one of them is believed to be injured, the DSK information service stresses in its statement.

Military organs state that they will release their version of the event later today. The area of the military command in Pristina is still cordoned off, while the situation in Pristina is very tense.

Pristina Corps Releases Statement

LD1111142992 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1250 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Nov (TANJUG)—The information officer of the Pristina Corps has issued the following statement on this morning's incident in Pristina:

At about 0530 today, in Pristina garrison, outside the building of the Yugoslav Army club, an attack was carried out by Shiptar [Albanian] terrorists on the Army sentry guards. In the incident, soldiers Vladimir Crnomarkovic, born in 1973, in Indjija [Vojvodina] and Radoslav Kostic, born in 1972, in the village of Klinovci, near Klina [Kosovo], were wounded. Both soldiers underwent medical treatment, and their lives are not in danger.

With the direct involvement of their officers, the guards responded to the terrorist attack by opening fire and killing one terrorist. A subsequent search of the body produced an amount of foreign currency, an identity card belonging to Nasijet Sukrija Seljimi, born in 1966, in the village of Veliki Trnovac in the Bujanovac municipality [southern Serbia], as well as a certificate confirming that the dead man was a student at Pristina Faculty of Agriculture.

There is well-founded suspicion that apart from the dead terrorist there was also a group of individuals, something that is borne out by the blood stains on the footpath in the street through which they fled the scene. Having perfidiously stabbed one of the sentries in the back, terrorist Nasijet Seljimi then seized his machine gun and fired 30 bullets at the other sentries, who immediately returned fire and liquidated the attacker.

State security organs and the Serbian Internal Affairs Ministry promptly inspected the scene and took measures to identify the other terrorists.

The public will be informed in due course about their further investigation, the Pristina Corps information service says in its statement.

Pristina Calm Following Incident

LD1111145792 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1335 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Text] Pristina, Nov 11 (TANJUG)—Pristina, the capital of the southern Serbian province of Kosovo-Metohija, was calm on Wednesday afternoon following an armed attack by unidentified assailants on the headquarters of the Yugoslav Army Pristina Corps. The attack left one assailant dead and two soldiers wounded.

The area around the building situated in the centre of the town has been reopened to the public after an on-the-spot investigation into the attack during which the soldiers on sentry duty fired back in self-defence.

It has been learned unofficially that one of at least two attackers who fled was wounded, judging by eyewitness accounts and a bloody trail left on the street.

Investigative teams of the Yugoslav Army and the Ministry of the Interior of Serbia have inspected the scene of the attack and an official statement is forthcoming.

Unofficial sources identified the attacker who was shot dead as Nasijet Selimi, 26, an ethnic Albanian. Ethnic Albanians are the majority population in Kosovo-Metohija.

A secessionist movement, whose leaders illegally proclaimed the province a republic and who insist on its annexation to neighbouring Albania, has been active for years in Kosovo-Metohija.

Gas Shortage Reportedly Cancels Education Talks

LD1111213392 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1615 GMT 11 Nov 92

[Excerpt] Novi Sad, 11 Nov (TANJUG)—Talks about the resumption of classes in Albanian in Kosovo were not held in Novi Sad today. Representatives of the Federal and Serbian Governments, Albanian alternative parties, and a special group for Kosovo at the Geneva conference were due to attend the talks. This morning news arrived from Pristina that allegedly due to lack of gasoline, Albanian representatives, which are authorized to talk about education problems in this southern Serbian province, were prevented to continue the fourth round of talks about difficulties arisen after Albanian students started to boycott classes. [passage omitted]

Albanians Object to Site

AU1011200592 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1430 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Text] The Kosovo Democratic Alliance Information Center announces that the Albanian delegation, which is holding talks with the Serbian authorities on Albanian education questions in Kosovo, with the Geneva conference representatives as mediators, will refuse to resume the talks in Novi Sad [in Vojvodina], instead of Geneva.

The Albanian delegation's stance on Kosovo education was communicated to Gert Arens, chairman of the special working group on Kosovo. The Albanian party demands that the talks be held in Pristina, Skopje, or in another neutral country.

Rugova Compares Serb Opposition to Milosevic

AU1211085292 Vienna KURIER in German 11 Nov 92 p 3

[Report on interview with Ibrahim Rugova, "president of Kosovo province," by Ingrid Steiner in Pristina; date not given: "Milosevic's Fall Would Not Change Anything"]

[Text] Ibrahim Rugova holds a key position in the Albanian resistance against the Serb policy of oppression. Ingrid Steiner conducted an interview with the president of Kosovo province.

—Elections in the remaining Yugoslavia on 20 December:

We will boycott the elections. Our population held elections last summer. If we participated in elections now, Belgrade would deprive Kosovo of all rights, and, like in 1945, it would be fully legitimized to keep us within the federation.

—Possible fall of Serbian President Milosevic:

The west speculates that another 1 million voters from Kosovo might help achieve the fall of Milosevic. For us, however, his fall would not change anything. The Serbian opposition holds the same radical position vis-a-vis the Albanians. Yugoslav Prime Minister Milan Panic will not improve our situation either. With his trips to Kosovo, he is only trying to acquire a stronger profile in the West.

—Threatening escalation of the tense situation:

After the elections, Serbia might even tighten its policy of violence and oppression toward the Albanians. However, even if everything remains as it is, it is bad enough. We must continue to find a way out and take small steps to ease the tensions. Western pressure to participate in the elections makes our situation even more difficult. We have never received anything but a little sympathy from the international community of states. Neither the United Nations nor the EC have told us so far in what way we would benefit from the elections.

—Bloody clashes between Albanians and the police in neighboring Macedonia:

There is no doubt that the provocations came from the security forces. Serbia is interested in destabilizing the situation in Macedonia.